The Belize Times

Established 1957

24 MAY 2026 | ISSUE NO: 5507

— *The Truth Shall Make You Free* —

facebook.com/BzeTimes/
facebook.com/vibesmediabz/ | $1.00

SPECIAL INTEREST SENATORS BLOCK THE OSH BILL

■ Pg. 2

Why are they against our Workers?

NO UDP SITTING DUCKS AVAILABLE

■ Pg. 19

UDP'S HOT & DEPRESSED SAYS: PUP is TOO Transparent

■ Pg. 11

MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH: *"TAKE ACTION."*

OSH BACKSTABBERS, BLOCKERS OF THE OSH

Whatever happened to the chant of "Rush the OSH"?

After the Occupational, Safety, and Health (OSH) Bill received full iteration, with the rigorous process of drafting, feedback, and refinement of the clauses of the bill, between the government, the National Trade Union Congress of Belize (NTUCB), the Chamber of Commerce and Industry (BCCI) and the private sector, some of the special interest senators have decided to shelve the bill.

In an unconscionable and despicable act, the, backstabbers of the bill including Senator Maximus Dennison and Senator Minimus Pitts, who had quarrelled for the passage of the OSH, changed the goalpost at the eleventh hour and submitted concerns, blocking and putting the bill on the back burner at the last sitting of the Senate proceedings. Furthermore, four of the "Independent" Senators made a visit to Ashcroft's Channel 5 to sling more mud onto the OSH. What is the Special Interest on this? Do they have this same level of interest for every bill? Thse were questions missed by the interviewers. In essence, they are placing the safety of many workers on the shelf as well.

In an impromptu interview, Minister of Labour, Hon Kareem Musa, explained that, *"The Senate has their own position, their own belief, which they never presented throughout the what, a decade of consultations."* Adding, *"They waited until the very last minute now to say they want to see these things in the OSH Bill."*

Historically, the OSH Bill was submitted to the Cabinet in 2011, under the United Democratic Party (UDP) administration. It was subsequently tabled in Parliament for approval in January 2014. Incidentally, in 2013 Dean Barrow had members of the NTUCB ejected from the National Assembly for shouting at the then Prime Minister, Dean Barrow to enact the proposed bill, which was tabled in Parliament.

Upon the introduction of the OSH in 2014, Barrow warned that the new legislation would bear a huge financial cost. Barrow said that although he considered the bill laudable, *"There will be a tremendous burden and financial cost-not only to government, but to the private sector and to small individual employers, even those that have one-person operations. Becoming compliant will cost a significant amount of money."* Not a scintilla of consideration for the working man and woman, especially those who had been killed or injured on the job.

However, the PUP Government, led by Prime Minister, John Briceño, on June 27, 2025, introduced the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Bill 2025 in the House of Representatives in Belmopan. Hon Florencio Marin Jr., Minister of Rural Transformation, Community Development, Labour and Local Government led the charge in presenting the OSH Bill.

As a prerequisite, throughout November and 2023, the Ministry of Labour conducted extensive consultations and a sensitisation campaign with diverse stakeholders in collaboration with the OSH Working Group of representatives from the pertinent entities. This exhaustive process culminated in the submission of the proposed amendments to the Cabinet on January 30, 2023, which subsequently garnered unanimous approval as per the GOB press release.

Thereafter, the OSH Bill was successfully made into law, establishing a National OSH Advisory Committee and an OSH Inspectorate within the Ministry of Labour, modernising standards aligned with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Conventions. It also repealed and replaced the antiquated Factories Act.

Interestingly, the President of the NTUCB, Ella Waight hailed the passage of the bill as historic and lauded the government agencies, ministries, departments, and persons that were involved in the process for keeping the issue alive. Waight posited that the Group went through the draft document, word by word, line by line, for the drafts of the bill. Nonetheless, both Senator Glenfield Dennison and Senator Sheena Pitts found the document lacking and decided to put the middle finger to the bill leaving the workers at the mercy, without a conducive, secure, safe, and healthy working environment.

Undeniably, the Government is committed to the welfare of the workers of Belize and if the changes are rational suggestions they will be accommodated as expressed by Minister Musa. Unlike the UDPs and the leaning senatorial affiliates, the PUP Government led by Prime Minister John Briceño remains steadfast in the corner of the working man and woman. Their 17-year-old advocacy journey will not be in vain. Aluta continua!

By Hilly Bennett

Cabinet Supports the National HPV Vaccination Programme

Belmopan, May 20, 2026.

Cabinet reaffirmed its commitment to protecting the health and wellness of Belizean women, girls, and children through the continued implementation of the national school-based HPV vaccination programme.

The HPV vaccine helps protect against cervical cancer and other HPV-related diseases. Cervical cancer remains a serious public health concern in Belize, making prevention through vaccination an important national priority.

The Ministry of Health and Wellness continues to provide the HPV vaccine free of cost through the national school vaccination programme and at health centres across the country, primarily for children ages 10 to 14.

The Government of Belize remains committed to ensuring equitable access to preventive healthcare services for all children and families across Belize.

See full Cabinet Brief on page 8

PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

ANNOUNCEMENT

The People's United Party invites applications for those wishing to contest the 2027 Municipal Elections in any of the nine municipalities.

Applications are to be submitted in Duplicate: The Original to the PUP Secretariat and a Copy to the Caucus Chair for the respective municipality.

The window for applications is on Monday 1st of June to Friday 19th June, 2026 at 4:00 p.m.

Applications are available at the PUP Secretariat and from the constituency Executive Committee for the municipality in which you wish to contest.

PUP DEMOCRACY ON FULL DISPLAY

Stability & Preparedness

19 May, 2026 - The People's United Party is already laying the groundwork for the 2027 municipal elections, signaling confidence, organization, and pushing to strengthen local leadership across the country. Following a meeting of the party's National Executive on Monday, May 18, the PUP officially announced that applications are now being invited for Belizeans interested in contesting municipal seats in all nine municipalities.

This move comes at a time when political momentum continues to be building steadily in favor of the PUP Administration, which has emphasized internal democracy and grassroots participation as central pillars of its organization.

According to the announcement, prospective candidates will have a three-week window, from June 1 to June 19, to submit their applications to the PUP Secretariat and their respective municipal caucus chairs. The transparent process, party officials say, is intended to encourage broader participation while ensuring that local voices remain at the forefront of municipal governance.

The early call for applications reflects the party's strategy of preparing long before the official campaign season begins. While the PUP focuses on building its slate, public criticism from within the opposition ranks has continued to draw attention to the challenges facing the United Democratic Party. Former UDP Chairman Alberto August once again publicly criticized his own party's preparedness, pointing to what he described as a lack of candidates and delayed political organization under the current leadership of Tracy Taegar-Panton. We can remember that the UDP put forth and incomplete dual-faction motley crew for the March 2025 General Elections---an insult to the electorate.

In a social media post that quickly circulated online, August claimed the opposition had only managed to secure a handful of municipal candidates while the PUP had nearly completed full slates nationwide. He also questioned the opposition's pace in preparing for municipal elections, arguing that conventions and candidate selection efforts should already be well underway.

August's comments have added to ongoing perceptions of internal friction within the UDP, which has struggled in recent years with leadership disputes and organizational uncertainty. His remarks also included criticism directed at opposition figures, whom he suggested needed to focus less on media appearances and more on building political support on the ground.

For the PUP, however, the contrast appears to reinforce a message of stability and preparedness.

The departure of Belize City Mayor Bernard Wagner from municipal politics has also opened discussions about new leadership opportunities at the local level in Belize City. Political insiders believe the upcoming application process could introduce fresh faces into local government while allowing younger party members and community activists to emerge.

Municipal elections often serve as a political temperature check ahead of general elections, making the next round particularly important for both major parties. Control of town and city councils influences not only local governance but also public perception of national political strength.

For now, the PUP projects unity, readiness, and confidence. The party's emphasis on open applications and democratic participation is aimed at energizing supporters while presenting as a structured and organized political force.

Meanwhile, the opposition continues to face growing public scrutiny over its ability to rebuild and prepare a competitive nationwide team.

As the political season slowly begins to take shape, one thing is already becoming clear: the race toward 2027 has quietly begun. After the application process is completed, vetting commences. If there are more candidates than openings, contested conventions will take place.

Best of luck to all candidates! - EF

The Belize Times

serving Belize since 1957 as the longest continuous newspaper.

Founder: Rt. Hon. George Cadle Price, People's United Party Leader Emeritus

OFFICE MANAGER
Fay Castillo
EDITOR
José Jiménez
LAYOUT/GRAPHIC ARTIST
Chris Williams
OFFICE ASSISTANT
Roberto Peyrefitte

Printed and Published By
TIMES NEWSPAPER LTD.
Tel: 280-8385
#3 Queen Street
P.O. BOX 506
Belize City, Belize
Email: belizetimesadvertisement@yahoo.com

EDITORIAL

DELIVERING TRUTH- A COMMODITY

In March 2025, Prime Minister John Briceño, his PUP-planBelize Team, their body of work, and planBelize itself were evaluated by the people of Belize. The resulting report provided clear feedback and another strong electoral result for the people and the PUP. This followed five years of countering opposition narratives since November 11, 2020, when the People's United Party took office with a mix of humility and optimism.

By March 2025, Belize had more jobs than at any point between 2008 and 2020, highlighting substantial employment growth compared to the previous 12-year period.

PlanBelize starter homes and first-time landowner lots were being delivered at a rate surpassing any period between 2008 and 2020, making it the most active period for housing initiatives in recent history.

National Health Insurance and public hospitals delivered more services by March 2025 than they had during the entire period from 2008 to 2020, illustrating the growth in healthcare delivery over that span.

Thousands of families now have access to free education, school nourishment, and financial support that benefits future generations.

Record tourism, diversified agriculture, a growing Blue Economy, MSME growth, BPO expansion, the renationalised Port, infrastructure investments, and resilient highways all fueled confidence, resulting in $2.8 billion in foreign direct investment. The people of Belize saw and experienced progress, voting to keep the PUP advancing development.

Today, the small group, which now represents the failed 2008-2020 Barrow Government, is in perpetual cruise control in a nasty attempt to defraud the people. The UDP tell the people that there is no money. They tell the people that the PUP is fighting and cannot find candidates. They tell the people that NHI is a hustle. They tell the people that the old buses are better for Belize. The Panton UDP tells us that spending money on Education is a waste of taxpayers' money. The UDP Senators oppose the OSH Bill, as it will lead to better working conditions. These Barrow UDPs are against any development. A Belize that is successfully working for everyone means that the planless UDP will remain out of government. The UDP is a bitter, incompetent, and corrupt set of characters that cannot see the truth. The UDP's only rash notion is that if Belize fails, then the people will choose the UDP. The truth is that the PUP is delivering.

PlanBelize 2.0 is now in full swing, with greater access to homes, land, education, NHI, jobs, infrastructure, and opportunities for a better quality of life. Macroeconomic indicators point to Belize growing at 2.5 per cent per annum despite global crises. Microeconomic indicators prove the same trend. The most revealing of these indicators is arguably the tandem of low inflation and low unemployment. Low inflation does not mean overall 'low' prices. Inflation means a rise in the total price of the basket of commodities a family consumes. Humanness makes us ignore the prices that go down. Humanness leads some of us to turn to social media when the price of a product goes up. Humanness makes us despise the pothole and ignore the miles of smooth, climate-resilient road. Hypothetically, if unemployment rates were to rise tomorrow, automatically, the statistics would be believable to the media trolls. Today, the unemployment rate hovers just under a healthy 2.0 per cent. That number is ignored and despised by the cynics. The record number of Belizeans with jobs have no time to post that they now have a job. The truth is majestic and reveals itself as a grandiose commodity at election time.

The people of Belize are politically savvy and know what is good for the country. The people of Belize await the construction of the two bridges in Belize City and will endure the inconvenience for a few years. We wait for the solar farms and will light a candle when necessary. The people will pay the new water bill, conserve water, and closely monitor the sewerage and other water infrastructure. The people will enjoy the virtual soap opera emerging from the concept of a cruise and cargo port, but we expect the delivery of that mega project in due time. The people expect even better-paying jobs, more modern infrastructure around their land and homes, even more reliable NHI, sustained protection of MSME businesses, modern transport, an improved education system, and an even more transparent and accountable government. What have you done for me lately? It's the usual call, and the PUP is ready to answer.

While the World Bank projects poverty at 15 per cent by 2026, the aim is already to reduce it to below 10 per cent, reflecting PM John Briceño's determination. He is committed to eradicating poverty and continuously improving the quality of life. Belizeans are the true rulers; Briceño and his team lead with accountability. For the PUP, sharing genuine progress is straightforward, making it easy for voters to support them ever more strongly. The truth about development is invaluable and uncomfortable for those who ruled from 2008 to 2020. That truth empowered the people in 2020, and progress continues throughout the nation.

en Español

LA VERDAD COMO BIEN DE CONSUMO

En marzo de 2025, el pueblo de Belice evaluó al primer ministro John Briceño, a su equipo planBelice del PUP, su labor y al propio planBelice. El informe resultante ofreció una valoración clara y supuso otro sólido resultado electoral para el pueblo y el PUP. Esto se produjo tras cinco años de contrarrestar los argumentos de la oposición desde el 11 de noviembre de 2020, cuando el Partido Unido del Pueblo asumió el poder con una mezcla de humildad y optimismo.

En marzo de 2025, Belice contaba con más puestos de trabajo que en cualquier otro momento entre 2008 y 2020, lo que ponía de relieve un crecimiento sustancial del empleo en comparación con el periodo anterior de 12 años.

Las viviendas de primera mano de PlanBelice y las parcelas para nuevos propietarios se entregaron a un ritmo que superó el de cualquier otro periodo entre 2008 y 2020, lo que lo convirtió en el periodo más activo para las iniciativas de vivienda en la historia reciente.

El Seguro Nacional de Salud y los hospitales públicos prestaron más servicios en marzo de 2025 que en todo el periodo comprendido entre 2008 y 2020, lo que ilustra el crecimiento de la prestación de servicios de asistencia sanitaria durante ese lapso.

Miles de familias tienen ahora acceso a la educación gratuita, a la alimentación escolar y a apoyo financiero que beneficia a las generaciones futuras.

El turismo récord, la agricultura diversificada, una economía azul en crecimiento, el crecimiento de las micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas (MIPYMES), la expansión del sector de externalización de procesos empresariales (BPO), el puerto renacionalizado, las inversiones en infraestructura y las carreteras resilientes alimentaron la confianza, lo que se tradujo en 2.800 millones de dólares de inversión extranjera directa. El pueblo de Belice vio y experimentó el progreso y votó para que el PUP siguiera impulsando el desarrollo.

Hoy en día, el pequeño grupo que ahora representa al fallido Gobierno de Barrow de 2008-2020, se encuentra en un perpetuo piloto automático en un desagradable intento de defraudar al pueblo. El UDP le dice al pueblo que no hay dinero. Le dice al pueblo que el PUP está en crisis y no puede encontrar candidatos. Le dice al pueblo que el NHI es una estafa. Le dice al pueblo que los autobuses viejos son mejores para Belice. El UDP de Panton sostiene que gastar dinero en educación es un despilfarro del dinero de los contribuyentes. Los senadores del UDP se oponen al proyecto de ley de seguridad y salud en el trabajo, ya que conducirá a mejores condiciones laborales. Estos miembros del UDP de Barrow se oponen a cualquier tipo de desarrollo. Un Belice que funcione con éxito para todos implica que el UDP, carente de planes, permanecerá fuera del gobierno. El UDP es un grupo de personajes amargados, incompetentes y corruptos que no pueden ver la verdad. La idea descabellada del UDP es que si Belice fracasa, el pueblo elegirá al UDP. La verdad es que el PUP está cumpliendo.

PlanBelize 2.0 está ahora en pleno apogeo, con mayor acceso a viviendas, tierras, educación, al Seguro Nacional de Salud (NHI), empleo, infraestructuras y oportunidades para una mejor calidad de vida. Los indicadores macroeconómicos muestran que Belice crece un 2,5 % anual a pesar de las crisis mundiales. Los indicadores microeconómicos confirman la misma tendencia. El más revelador de estos indicadores es, sin duda, la combinación de una baja inflación y un desempleo bajo. Una baja inflación no significa que los precios en general sean «bajos». La inflación se define como el aumento del precio total de la cesta de productos básicos que consume una familia. La naturaleza humana nos lleva a ignorar los precios que caen. La naturaleza humana lleva a algunos de nosotros a recurrir a las redes sociales cuando sube el precio de un producto. La naturaleza humana nos lleva a despreciar el bache e ignorar los kilómetros de carretera lisa y resistente al clima. Hipotéticamente, si mañana subieran las tasas de desempleo, automáticamente, las estadísticas serían creíbles para los trolls de los medios de comunicación. Hoy en día, la tasa de desempleo se sitúa justo por debajo de un saludable 2,0 %. Esa cifra es ignorada y despreciada por los cínicos. El número récord de beliceños con empleo no tiene tiempo para publicar que ahora lo tienen. La verdad es majestuosa y se revela como un bien grandioso en época de elecciones.

El pueblo de Belice es políticamente avispado y sabe lo que es bueno para el país. El pueblo de Belice espera la construcción de los dos puentes en la ciudad de Belice y aguantará las molestias durante unos años. Esperamos las granjas solares y encenderemos una vela cuando sea necesario. La gente pagará la nueva factura del agua, la ahorrará y vigilará de cerca el alcantarillado y otras infraestructuras hidráulicas. La gente disfrutará del culebrón virtual que surge del concepto de un puerto de cruceros y de carga, pero esperamos que ese megaproyecto se haga realidad a su debido tiempo. La gente espera empleos aún mejor remunerados, infraestructuras más modernas en torno a sus tierras y hogares, un Seguro Nacional de Salud (NHI) aún más fiable, una protección sostenida de las micro, pequeñas y medianas empresas (MIPYMES), un transporte moderno, un sistema educativo mejorado y un gobierno aún más transparente y responsable. «¿Qué has hecho por mí últimamente?». Es la pregunta habitual y el PUP está listo para responder.

Mientras que el Banco Mundial prevé una tasa de pobreza del 15 % para 2026, el objetivo ya es reducirla por debajo del 10 %, lo que refleja la determinación del primer ministro John Briceño. Está comprometido con la erradicación de la pobreza y con la mejora continua de la calidad de vida. Los beliceños son los verdaderos gobernantes; Briceño y su equipo lideran con responsabilidad. Para el PUP, compartir el progreso genuino es sencillo, lo que facilita que los votantes los apoyen cada vez con más fuerza. La verdad sobre el desarrollo es invaluable e incómoda para quienes gobernaron de 2008 a 2020. Esa verdad empoderó al pueblo en 2020 y el progreso continúa en toda la nación.

Dangriga Town
WORKS CONTINUE ENDLESSLY

Mayor Mariano and Team

Dangriga is known as the Culture Capital as it is a municipality that in the center of the Garifuna people. Hon. Louis Zabaneh has successfully used much of the CDF funds to collaborate with the Town Council for the benefit of the people. Both the Mayor and Rep along with Min. Mahler have worked to make the Multipurpose Park move from concept to construction. Bringing Tourist to Dangriga is a long term goal for the duo. The people of Dangriga will benefit with the increased level of job availability and town economy. The success of Mayor Mariano and Hon. Zabaneh working together is something that is admired by the people of Dangriga. They can only expect to want more of this success.

The 2024–2027 team (PUP) serving the citizens of our Dangriga along with Mayor Mariano are Deputy Mayor: Jerris "Nigi" Valentine; Councillors: Hilberto "Hil" Bernardez, Gilroy Howard "the Barber" Flores, Martha Robinson, Liberato Teul, and Howard Lionel Melendrez.

Infrastructure

A Town Council Involved

Collaboration w/ Hon. Louis Zabaneh & Central GoB

Series of Consultations

Belize's First Migration & Development Policy

NATIONAL STAKEHOLDER CONSULTATION

The Ministry of Immigration, Governance and Labour, alongside the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM), launched the inaugural National Stakeholder Consultation for Belize's first Migration and Development Policy. CEO Tanya Santos co-chaired the opening session today at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Auditorium in Belmopan, uniting senior public officials for engaging discussions.

Early priority areas focus on national security, labour and investment migration, and social services integration. This launch marks the beginning of a week-long series of consultations running from May 15 to 22 across Belmopan, Belize City, Bella Vista, and San Pedro.

The Ministry of Immigration, Governance and Labour met with tourism stakeholders, including the Belize Tourism Board, airline representatives, and the Belize Tourism Industry Association, as consultations continue for Belize's first National Migration and Development Policy.

Led by CEO Tanya Santos explored how migration intersects with tourism, labour mobility, investment, and national development. It provided valuable input on how collaboration can be improved at the country's airports.

Expected outcomes by end of 2026:

- Belize's first National Migration and Development Policy
- Stronger migration related legislation
- Improved inter-ministerial coordination
- A dedicated policy and monitoring unit
- Evidence based recommendations rooted in Belize's experience

The process is expected to deliver a consolidated stakeholder report, evidence-based recommendations, and key inputs for the final draft policy, to be presented to the Ministry in late July.

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST (REOI)
(CONSULTING FIRM)

Consultancy Service for Institutional Strengthening for Supplier Development and Linkage Facilitation

Institution:	Ministry of Finance
Country:	Belize, Central America
Project:	Trade and Investment Facilitation Program for Belize
Process ID:	BL-L1040 – P00042
Duration:	Nine (9) Months
Deadline:	**June 2, 2026; 10:00 a.m. (Local Belize Time)**

The Government of Belize has received loan financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for the implementation of the Trade and Investment Facilitation Program in Belize (TIFP).

The Ministry of Finance, through its Central Executing Unit, intends to allocate a portion of the project's proceeds to procure the services of a Consulting Firm to undertake the **"Consultancy Service for Institutional Strengthening for Supplier Development and Linkage Facilitation".**

The Ministry of Finance invites interested firms to access the full version of this REOI online at https://procurement.gov.bz/opportunities/ or by scanning the QR code below, and to submit their Expression of Interest (EOI) in accordance with the instructions provided in the full version.

ATTN:
Procurement Officer
Ministry of Finance
3rd Floor, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan
procurement@ceu.mof.gov.bz

Allegedly Caught in Baldy Beacon Area, Cayo

Former Immigration Scandal UDP Minister Removing Explosive Components at BDF Destruction Site

May 21 - As we are going to print, Elvin Penner of Citizen Kim infamy, is allegedly and reportedly under investigation for illegally removing incendiary materials from a BDF explosives site in the Baldy Beacon area. According to a Channel Seven post, the material was there as part of an ongoing operation to destroy unexploded ordnance (UXOs) recovered from across the country. The destruction operation was apparently being carried out with specialists from the Organization of American States, in collaboration with the Belize Defence Force. Officials are quoted as saying the team had already completed roughly 90 percent of the destruction process when a fire broke out in the area. This caused the emergency response efforts from the BDF and Forestry Department. The destruction continued of the remaining UXOs to eliminate any lingering threats posed by the explosive devices.

According to Channel Seven, "the operation took a turn when BDF personnel allegedly caught former government minister Elvin Penner inside the restricted BDF Training Area. According to the report, Penner - who is known to have property in the area - was allegedly attempting to remove charging wires and white phosphorus materials used in the controlled detonations. Penner could not be detained due to manpower limitations but was escorted out of the area.

Authorities claim at least one roll of wire and two white phosphorus charges were allegedly found inside his personal pickup, reportedly stored beside a fuel container, creating what officials characterize as an "extremely dangerous" situation".

We will have more on this next week following any formal report from the BDF.

NOTICE

GOVERNMENT OF BELIZE TREASURY BILLS
ISSUE NUMBER 8/2026

Tenders are invited for an issue of Government of Belize Treasury Bills. The amount of the issue will be $90,000,000.00.

The Bills will be issued in electronic form only evidenced by an electronic book entry in the Central Securities Depository (CSD) of the Central Bank of Belize in multiples of $200 and will be repayable at par 91 days after issue. They will be issued on Thursday, 11 June 2026 and will be redeemed on Thursday 10 September 2026.

Each tender must be for $200 or a multiple of $200. Bid yields must be submitted to five decimal places.

Members of the public who wish to participate in the auction must submit their bid to the Central Bank of Belize electronically to bids@centralbank.org.bz or at the designated drop off box no later than 12:00 noon on Friday, 5 June 2026.

The auction in the CSD will be opened from 10:00 am to 2:00 pm on Thursday 11 June 2026.

Successful bidders should arrange to settle via the Automated Payment & Securities Settlement System of Belize (APSSS).

Bank: Central Bank of Belize
Account: GLICORP0402627

The Government of Belize reserves the right to accept or reject any and/or all tenders in whole or in part.

CENTRAL BANK OF BELIZE

Notices are placed on Central Bank of Belize Website (www.centralbank.org.bz)

13 May 2026

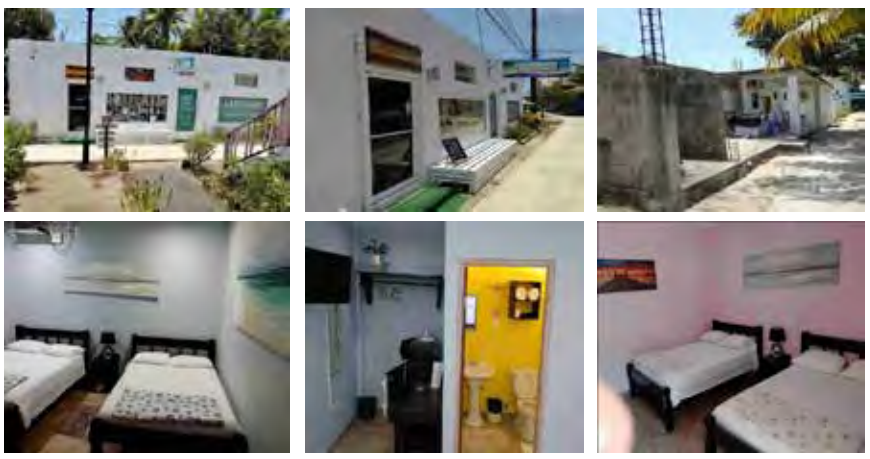
BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM

PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: PROPERTY

Placencia North, Stann Creek District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following property. Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until this property is sold.

Parcel No. 1882 Placencia North, Placencia Village, Stann Creek District:



REGISTRATION SECTION	BLOCK	PARCEL
Placencia North	63	1882

(Being a single-story ferro concrete bungalow structure [1,600 sq. ft.] comprising 4 Bedrooms + 6 Bathrooms & 2 Rental Commercial Units. The building also contains an incomplete extension [800 sq. ft.] comprising 2 Bedrooms + 3 Bathrooms + 1 Office Space + Laundry Room + Utility Room TOGETHER with LOT [269.587 sq. m.], situate in Placencia North, Placencia Village, Stann Creek District, the freehold property of Mr. Hubert Evan Anthony Spence)

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"

TERMS: STRICTLY CASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO
TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail: kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auction

BWS

Request for Bids (RFB)

Water Supply & Modernization Program

BL-L1043

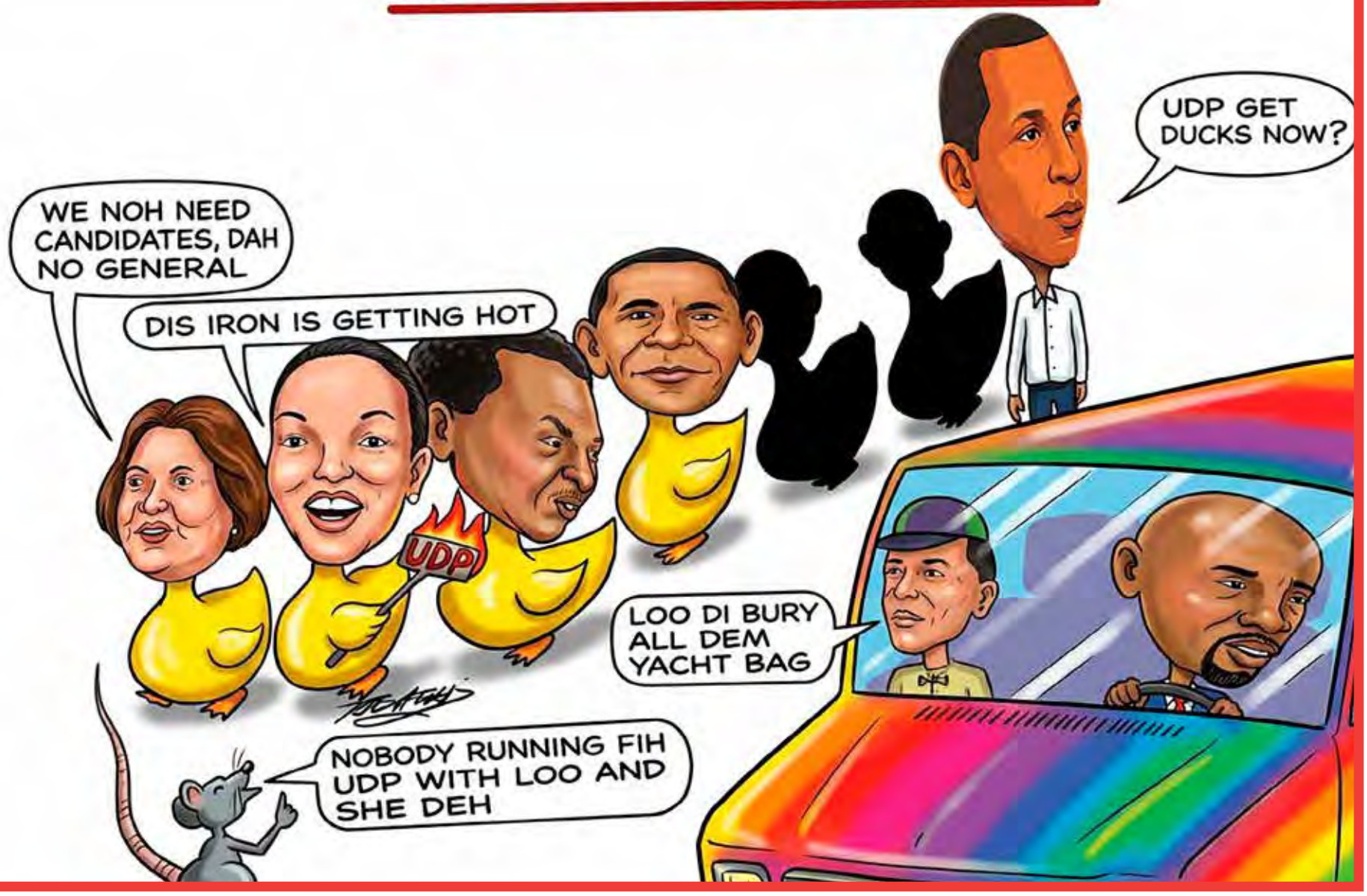
SUPPLY & COMISSION OF SMART METERS PHASE 2 (SAN PEDRO)

1. This RFB follows the General Procurement Notice for this Project publicized as of *24th April 2026.*
2. Belize Water Services Limited has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank toward the cost of Water Supply & Modernization Program and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan to payments under the Contract for *Supply & Commission of Smart Meters Phase 2 (San Pedro).*
3. The *Belize Water Services Limited* now invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified bidders for *Supply & Commission of Smart Meters Phase 2 (San Pedro).*
4. The RFB will be conducted through the International Competitive Bidding (ICB) procedures specified in the Inter-American Development Bank's *Policies for the Procurement of Goods and Works financed by the Inter-American Development Bank GN-2349-15* and is open to all bidders from Eligible Source Countries as defined in the bidding document.
5. Interested eligible bidders may obtain an e-copy of bidding document from *Belize Water Services Limited, Mr. Leonardo Folgarait, Procurement Specialist at rce@bwsl.com.bz*
6. Bids may be delivered to the address below *on or before 2:00 p.m. on 5th June 2026.* Alternatively, bidders may submit their bids electronically via email to the address specified, in accordance with the procedures outlined in the Bidding Data Sheet, *on or before 2:00 p.m. on 5th June 2026.* Late bids will be rejected. Bids will be opened physically at *2:15 p.m. 5th June 2026* in the presence of the bidders' representatives who choose to attend in person or on-line.
7. All bids *"shall"* be accompanied by a *"Bid Security"* of *3% of bid price in US Dollars or an equivalent amount in a freely convertible currency.*
8. The address referred to above is:

Mr. Leonardo Folgarait,
Procurement Specialist,
Belize Water Services Limited,
7 Central American Boulevard,
Belize City, Belize C.A.

BWS - Delivering Water and More...

CARTOON


DUCKS IN A ROW
WE NOH NEED CANDIDATES, DAH NO GENERAL
DIS IRON IS GETTING HOT
UDP
UDP GET DUCKS NOW?
LOO DI BURY ALL DEM YACHT BAG
NOBODY RUNNING FIH UDP WITH LOO AND SHE DEH

Talent Up Belize Operational Workshop:

Ecosystem Establishment

PRIME MINISTER JOHN BRICEÑO

KEYNOTE ADDRESS

Grand Resort & Residences, Belize City

20th May 2026

HIGH-LEVEL CONFIRMATION

Hon. Anthony Mahler, Minister of Youth, Sports and Diaspora Relations,

Hon. Dr. Osmond Martinez, Minister of State in the Ministry of Economic Transformation,

Hon. Ramon Cervantes, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science, and Technology,

Mrs. Narda Garcia, CEO in the Office of the Prime Minister, Investment and Civil Aviation,

Mrs. Dian Maheia, CEO of the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology,

Mrs. Tanya Santos Neal, CEO in the Ministry of Immigration, Governance and Labour,

Dr. Leroy Almendarez, CEO of the Ministry of Public Utilities, Energy & Logistics,

Mr. Carlos Pol, CEO of the Ministry of Economic Transformation,

Mr. Jose Urbina, CEO in the Ministry of E-Governance,

Ms Karla Gonzalez, IDB Country Representative in Belize

Mr. Fernando Ocampo, IDB Representative,

Mrs. Ana María Rodríguez Hinestroza, Google Cloud Representative,

Executive Director Mr. Ishmael Quiroz and the Team from BELTRAIDE,

Distinguished stakeholders, partners, and guests,

Ladies and Gentlemen, good morning!

It is a truly a pleasure to join you today for the Talent Up Belize Operational Workshop: Ecosystem Establishment. I commend CEO Garcia for championing this initiative to be led by BELTRAIDE, through the Inter-American Development Bank, America en el Centro, Google, and all our national and international partners for bringing this important SkillUp opportunity to Belize.

Today's launch and establishment of this ecosystem is not simply another workshop or networking initiative. It is about positioning Belize for the future by investing in our people, strengthening our workforce, expanding opportunities, and ensuring Belize remains competitive in an increasingly digital and technology-driven global economy. Around the globe, economies are being reshaped by automation, artificial intelligence, cloud computing, cybersecurity, and digital innovation. According to global estimates, nearly 50% of all employees will require reskilling by 2027 due to the pace of technological advancements. At the same time, digital and technology-related jobs continue to be among the fastest-growing professions globally.

Belize cannot prepare our people for yesterday's economy while the world moves rapidly toward tomorrow's opportunities. This is why my government has made digital transformation and e-governance central pillars of our national development agenda under Plan Belize. We understand that technology today is not only about connectivity. It is about economic opportunities, access to services, education, innovation, transparency, investment attraction, MSME development and national competitiveness.

In partnership with the Inter-American Development Bank, the Government of Belize is currently implementing a US $10 million Digital Innovation to Boost Economic Development in Belize Program. This project is aimed at accelerating the digitization of businesses and government services to strengthen economic development, improve efficiency, and increase Belize's competitiveness in the global economy. DIBED as it is referred to, focuses on increasing digital adoption among businesses, modernizing and digitizing government licenses and regulatory services, and improving digital civil registry system to reduce cost and improve access for Belizean citizens. These reforms are helping Belize transition towards a more modern, efficient, transparent and citizen-centered government, one that is better equipped to meet the evolving needs of its people and economy.

As Prime Minister and Minister responsible for Finance, Investment, Economic Transformation, Civil Aviation & E-Governance, I firmly believe that digital government is one of the most important transformations we can undertake as a country. Citizens today expect services to be faster, more accessible, and more transparent. Businesses expect efficiency. Investors expect modern systems. And young people expect innovation. This is why we are actively working to modernize public services, improve cybersecurity frameworks, strengthen interoperability across government agencies and expand digital access nationwide.

The Government of Belize has already advanced several initiatives aimed at improving digital service delivery and strengthening our national innovation ecosystem. From digital transformation planning and online government services to digital procurement system, business facilitation reforms and expanding broadband and technology infrastructure, Belize is laying the groundwork for a safer and more connected future.

But digital transformation is not only about government systems. It is about people. Technology alone does not create transformation. Skills do. Opportunities do; access does. That is why my government has made digital transformation and e-governance central pillars of our national development agenda under Plan Belize. We understand that digital transformation is not simply about technology. It is about opportunity. It is about improving lives and livelihoods. It is about creating pathways for economic mobility, investment, innovation, MSME development and national competitiveness. And this is precisely why the ecosystem approach is so important. No single institution can prepare Belize for the future alone. Government cannot do it alone. University cannot do it alone. The private sector cannot do it alone. Sustainable national transformation requires collaboration, coordination and shared responsibility. The ecosystem model ensures that training aligns with industry demand, investment opportunities align with workforce capacity, and technology partners translate into real economic opportunities for Belizeans. It creates stronger linkages between education, employment, entrepreneurship, and innovation. Most importantly, it ensures that no sector or community is left behind.

Globally, the Talent Up Ecosystem has already reached over 1.1 million students, generated more than 52,000 registrations, and achieved over 10,000 completions. These are not simply numbers. These are lives transformed, careers launched, businesses strengthened, economies modernized. Belize positioning itself joins this movement. Through Google Skills, Belizeans will gain access to internationally recognized certification in cybersecurity, cloud computing, data analytics, artificial intelligence, generative AI and digital leadership. These are skills that connect directly to global industries, emerging technologies, and future employment opportunities.

Importantly, this platform grants access to high-level technical training through flexible learning opportunities, practical labs and industry- recognized credentials. It means that a young person in Patchakan in Corozal, Trial Farm in Orange Walk, Hopkins in Stann Creek, Big Creek in Toledo, Crooked Tree in the Belize District or Los Tambos in Cayo can now access world-class digital skills and participate in the global economy.

And let me say clearly: this Government remains fully committed to inclusive development. Our vision for Belize's digital transformation is not one that only benefits a few sectors or urban communities. We are committed to ensuring that opportunities reach women, youth, rural communities, underserve populations, entrepreneurs and MSMEs across the country. Digital transformation must reduce inequality, not deepen it. Access to technology, connectivity, digital literacy, and economic opportunity must be available to every Belizean regardless of geography or socioeconomic status. Investment in digital skills matter; we embrace Talent Up Belize model that set the stages for transformation.

Interestingly more than 60% of our population is under the age of 35. Our Belizean citizens are creative, resilient, innovative and ambitious. If we provide them with the right tools, opportunities and access, there is no reason Belize cannot emerge as a regional leader in digital talent and innovation. Just look at the BPO Sector!

We also understand that future economic development is increasingly tied to digital readiness. Investors today are not only looking at physical infrastructure. They are looking at digital infrastructure, digital talent, cybersecurity readiness, innovation ecosystem and workforce capacity.

Today when the facilitators unpack the potential for Talent Up Belize, you will realize its direct connection to broader economic transformation goals, ability to strengthen Belize competitiveness, attract higher-value investment, support entrepreneurship, and create a better-paying opportunities for Belizeans. I am especially encouraged that Talent UP brings together such a broad coalition of stakeholders, including government ministries, educational institutions, the Chamber of Commerce, private sector organizations, development partners, digital service providers, global technology giants such as Google. Sustainable transformation can only happen through collaboration and shared responsibility.

My government remains wholly committed to supporting innovation, digital inclusion, workforce readiness, and technology-driven development. We know that digital transformation is not a luxury for developed countries alone. It is essential for small states like Belize to thrive in a rapidly changing global economy.

To the young people of Belize, I want you to understand this: the future belongs to those who are willing to learn, adapt, innovate, and lead. The opportunities being unveiled today include artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, cloud computing, and digital entrepreneurship are not reserved for other countries. These are opportunities that are airmarked for Belizeans too.

I also encourage private sector to continue investing in digital adoption, innovation, and workforce development. A stronger digital economy benefits all of us.

Thank you to the IDB, America en el Centro and Google, your confidence in partnering to bring Talent Up Belize, your commitment to helping us builds a more competitive and future-ready nation.

And to stakeholders involved, I commend this first bold step in joining this robust ecosystem. By extension, I also want to acknowledge the work of the Belize Training & Employment Center (BTEC), a unit of BELTRAIDE, in helping to shape the future of Belize's workforce and digital economy; with a recorded impact of over 10,000 cadre of trained professionals.

Together, let us continue building a Belize where innovation thrives, government services become smarter and more accessible, business become more competitive, and our people are fully prepared to succeed in the digital age.

Let us position Belize not only as participant in the digital, but a niche leader within it.

Thank you, and I wish you a productive and impactful workshop.

Supporting Sports at Rolando Alcoser Park, Corozal Bay
TOTAL UPGRADE OF BASKETBALL COURT

"Something big is happening at the Rolando Alcoser Park. Two new rims and backboards have been installed. Today all the lights, breaker box and breakers have been replaced. We want to thank Benny's Enterprises Limited for partnering with us to light up the Dome Basketball Court!!! We also want to thank brothers Jared Alcoser and Ezer Alcoser-Dj Reflex for the installation of the lighting components and breaker box.

We are working hard to ensure that our shared spaces, parks and sporting facilities are functional and indeed serve our community. We will continue the work until the Dome is fully rehabilitated and functional. I am sharing some pics of the new lights and some of the lights that were replaced. We ask that the community take care of our shared spaces, and facilities." - Hon. Thea Garcia Ramirez post

CABINET BRIEF

Belmopan, May 21, 2026.
The Cabinet met on 19th May 2026.

• Cabinet reaffirmed its commitment to protecting the health and wellness of Belizean women, girls, and children through the continued implementation of the national school-based HPV vaccination programme and remains committed to ensuring equitable access to preventive healthcare services for all children and families across Belize.

• Cabinet approved the introduction of amendments to the Forests Act to immediately strengthen forest governance, enforcement, and administrative authority. The intention in strengthening the Forests Act is to address critical deficiencies in the current legislation, which limit the Government's ability to effectively regulate forest resources as well as protect and recover vulnerable wildlife species through temporary hunting moratoriums.

• Cabinet gave its endorsement for the National Digital Agenda 2026-2030 as the primary policy framework for all government digital initiatives. The agenda provides a strategic roadmap to increase citizen access to services, coordinate digital transformation initiatives throughout the public sector, and bring Belize into line with global technical standards.

• Cabinet gave its approval to amend the Belize International Financial Services Association Act solely for the purpose of changing the title of the Belize Financial Industry Association Act to the Belize Financial Industry Association. The Association will continue its work of representing its members in matters concerning the financial services industry.

• Cabinet approved the implementation of a temporary six-month moratorium on the approval and construction of buildings exceeding 45 feet in height and/or greater than three floors within the following communities: Caye Caulker Village, Hopkins Village, the Placencia Peninsula, and Sittee River Village. The moratorium will provide the Government with adequate time to undertake comprehensive public consultations and technical assessments regarding the impact of high-density and vertical development in these communities.

• Cabinet gave its support for the tabling of a financing agreement for concessional financing to support the Belize Early Childhood Development and Female Empowerment Project, aimed at improving access to early childhood care and education and expanding female employment opportunities.

• Cabinet gave its approval, subject to consultations with key stakeholders including recognized representatives of staff and the business community, for the establishment of a Semi-Autonomous Revenue Authority (SARA) through the transformation of the Belize Tax Service Department into the Belize Revenue Authority. This will be implemented in phases of the reform, including governance, staffing, and operational arrangements. This process will be coordinated by the Ministry of Finance, which will be responsible for overseeing the implementation of the transition.

• Finally, Cabinet reminds all Belizean drivers and passengers to buckle up. Drive safely and responsibly.

Ends

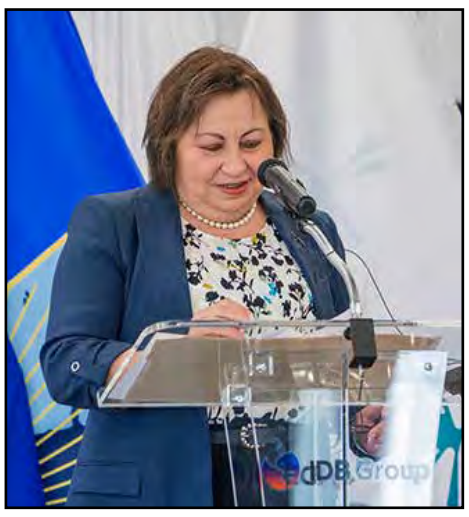
Ministry of
Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs
WHAT WE DO WEDNESDAY
COUNSELING SERVICES UNIT
Community Rehabilitation Department
YOU ARE NOT ALONE. WE ARE HERE FOR YOU.
The Counseling Services Unit provides professional, confidential, and compassionate mental health and psychosocial support services to individuals, families, and communities across Belize.
Delivered by trained Master's-level therapists, our services are designed to support emotional wellbeing, healing, resilience, and personal growth.
SERVICES INCLUDE:
Individual Counseling
Family & Couples Counseling
Child & Adolescent Counseling
Trauma & Abuse Support
Grief & Loss Counseling
Crisis Intervention
Anger & Stress Management
Self-Acceptance Support
Substance Use Counseling
Group Counseling & Support Groups
Mental Health Support
Referrals & Case Management
And much more.
A SAFE SPACE FOR HEALING & GROWTH
Using a client-centered and trauma-informed approach, the Unit creates a supportive environment where individuals and families can process experiences, strengthen coping strategies, and work toward positive and lasting change.
We also provide TELEHEALTH COUNSELING SERVICES to ensure support remains accessible across Belize.
SERVING COMMUNITIES ACROSS BELIZE
Belize City
Corozal
Orange Walk
Belmopan
San Ignacio
COMING SOON:
Dangriga
Independence
CONTACT US
Counseling Services Unit
Community Rehabilitation Department
Lake Independence Blvd. off Chetumal Street
Tel: (501) 227-1406 / 227-4003
Supporting Healing. Strengthening Families. Building Healthier Communities.
Facebook & Instagram:
Ministry of Human Development, Family Support and Gender Affairs
Serving People. Strengthening Families. Building Communities.

IDB TALENT UP OPERATIONAL WORKSHOP

REMARKS BY CEO

MRS. NARDA GARCIA

Office of the Prime Minister, Investment and Civil Aviation
Opening Ceremony May 20, 2026



Hon John Briceño, Prime Minister

Mrs Karla Gonzalez IDB Country Representative in Belize

Mr. Fernando Ocampo, IDB Representative,

Mrs. Ana María Rodríguez Hinestroza, Google Cloud Representative,

Executive Director Mr. Ishmael Quiroz and the Team from BELTRAIDE,

Partners in the private sector, academia, stakeholders, and invited guests,

ladies and gentlemen.

Good morning.

It is my privilege to welcome you to this operational workshop for the IDB Talent Up program, delivered through the América en el Centro initiative.

At the Office of the Prime Minister, the Investment Ministry, the Economic Development Council and BELTRAIDE, we know that economic competitiveness and social progress rest on a single, non-negotiable foundation: human capital. Talent Up is not a conventional training program. It is a strategic intervention designed to close the skills gap that holds our country and entire region back.

For Central America and especially Belize, the challenge is clear—and urgent. We have young, ambitious populations, but too many enter the labour market without the technical, digital, or socio-emotional skills that high-value industries demand. Talent Up directly addresses that mismatch. It brings together public employment systems, private sector needs, and targeted upskilling pathways.

This workshop is important and it matters because the operational details determine whether a great idea becomes real change. Over the next hours, your work will focus on:

· Mapping clear referral pipelines from training to quality jobs;

· Aligning certification systems so skills are recognized across borders;

· Defining how we measure, not just completion, but, labour insertion and wage gains.

América en el Centro understands that no single ministry or agency can solve this alone. That is why our Office—covering investment and coordinates with various departments and units—sees Talent Up as an investment in our national logistics, tourism, and business services sectors, where skilled talent is the difference between stagnation and growth.

To the IDB team: thank you for designing a program that respects the realities of our countries while raising our ambitions. To BELTRAIDE, the ministries and institute teams joining us: your expertise in the room today will shape implementation for thousands of workers and young people.

Let me close with a simple call to action. In a couple days, we should have clear pilot plans, assigned responsibilities, and a monitoring framework that flags risks early and rewards rapid adaptation, no more high-level declarations without technical follow-through.

Talent Up works when operations work. Let us get the details right—for our workers, our economies, and the future of Belize and Central America.

Thank you, and I wish you a productive and effective and meaningful workshop.

SPECIAL ENVOY
for the Development of Families & Children

PRESS RELEASE

May 16th, 2026

Urgent Call for a National Sex Offenders Registry in Belize

The identities of convicted sexual offenders should never remain hidden while women and children remain vulnerable to sexual abuse, exploitation, and violence from the very institutions entrusted with safeguarding them. The growing number of allegations involving individuals in positions of authority, including educators and police officers, has deepened public outrage and intensified the urgent national demand for greater accountability, transparency, and stronger protections against these heinous crimes.

A national Sex Offenders Registry is therefore not only necessary, but critical to protecting children by empowering families and communities with information and preventing repeat offenses.

Every child has the right to feel safe at all times, especially within the environments designed to nurture and protect them. Therefore, today, we call on citizens, leaders, institutions, and communities across Belize to break the silence, speak out against abusers, and stand together in defense of the safety, dignity, and future of every child.

#CallThemOut

END

Ministry of Education, Culture, Science & Technology Commitment

Student Health & Well-being

May 15, 2026 - The Ministry of Education Culture Science and Technology (MoECST) reiterates its commitment to safeguarding the health and well-being of all students and remains committed to working in close collaboration with the Ministry of Health and Wellness in support of national public health initiatives including school-based vaccination programmes.

The Ministry further emphasizes that informed parental consent remains a fundamental requirement in the administration of vaccines to students. In accordance with established protocols consent forms are distributed to parents and guardians in advance and only students for whom signed consent has been received are eligible to receive vaccinations.

MoECST remains committed to ensuring that all health-related initiatives conducted within schools are implemented in a manner that respects parental authority promotes transparency and prioritizes student safety and well-being. (release)

The San Lorenzo Housing Site Beautification Mural

OWC SUCCESSFUL JOINT COMMUNITY EFFORT

"A heartfelt thank you to our construction guys at The Orange Walk Town Council, Area Representative Hon. John Briceño, PUP Orange Walk Central, United Women's Group Orange Walk Central, Muffles College High School- MasterPieceMakers: you guys are talented... thank you! To Mrs. Samantha Ke Rodriguez for transmitting your love for arts in these students. Councillor Cadir Escalante- thank you Bro, Mayor Roberto Mariano from Dangriga Town, Lee's Chinese Restaurant and to every single person who helped make this project possible. Mrs. Paulita Edwards Nunez, Julie's Used Clothing, Julie Cabrera, Osiely Mendez, Sasha Marie, Gracie Briceño-Nah, Udiel Briceño, Fernando 'Bigsanch' Sanchez, Joseth A. Bonner, Lilia Galvez, and all the neighborhood kids!

Thank you for your time, support, hard work even on this warm day, we all pulled through.

The mural of a community map, represents unity and teamwork. Thank you all for being part of something beautiful for San Lorenzo Housing Site... look out for Part 2." – Alondra De La Fuente, OW Town Council Post

The Orange Walk Town Council asks the community residents and visitors to assist by taking care of the mural.

Belize National Prayer

Almighty and Eternal God, who through Jesus Christ has revealed Your Glory to all nations, please protect and preserve Belize, our beloved country.

God of might, wisdom and justice, please assist our Belizean government and people with your Holy Spirit of counsel and fortitude.

Let Your light of Your divine wisdom direct their plans and endeavours so that with Your help we may attain our just objectives.

With Your guidance, may all our endeavours tend to peace, social justice, liberty, national happiness, the increase of industry, sobriety and useful knowledge.

We pray, O God of Mercy, for all of us that we may be blessed in the knowledge and sanctified in the

observance of Your most holy law, that we may be preserved in union and, in that peace which the world itself cannot give.

And, after enjoying the blessings of this life, please admit us, dear Lord, to that eternal reward that You have prepared for those who love You.

Amen.

Elections and Boundaries Department
Old Land's Building
Market Square
City of Belmopan

Telephone: 822-0525 ***Website: www.elections.gov.bz***
Email: elections@electbound.gov.bz

Find us on "EBD Belize"

20th May 2026

NOTICE

VILLAGE COUNCIL BY-ELECTION

Vacancy – Tower Hill Village Council, Orange Walk District

The general public is hereby notified that in accordance with Part III, Section 9 (1) (b) of the Village Council Act, Chapter 88 of the Laws of Belize, Revised Edition 2020 and Section 3 of the Village Council (Elections) Regulation 2009, (Statutory Instrument 134 of 2009), has declared vacancies as follows:

Orange Walk District

Village	No.	Position	Reason
Tower Hill	1.	Member	Resignation of Adrian Ake
	2.	Member	Resignation of Omar Ake

By-election – Tower Hill Village Council, Orange Walk District

The general public is hereby notified that in accordance with Section 3 of the Village Councils (Amendment) Act 2022, (Act No. 10 of 2022) and Rule 6A of the Village Council (Elections) (Amendment) Regulations, 2022 (S.I. 65 of 2022), by-election will be held to fill vacancies for the village listed below:

Orange Walk District

Village Name	Nomination Date 28th June 2026	Election Date 5th July 2026
Tower Hill	**Nomination Center**	**Polling Station**
	Nominations open at 9:00 a.m. and closes at 12 midday	Polls open at 9:00 a.m. and closes at 1:00 p.m.
	Tower Hill Community Center	Tower Hill Community Center

~ End ~

UDP'S HOT MESS SAYS:
PUP IS TOO TRANSPARENT!

May 20, 2026 - A growing public debate over education funding and government social programs has once again placed the spotlight on how taxpayer dollars are being used to support Belizean families.

The discussion intensified after the Ununited Dysfunctional Party (UDP) held a press conference, and their media mouthpiece Hot Mess(or Hot and Depressed) posted on social media, questioning the Government's promotion of expanded financial assistance for students, arguing that the support is funded primarily through public tax revenue and should not be viewed as political generosity. The commentary pointed to increased spending by the Ministry of Education over the years and emphasized that education support programs are ultimately financed by Belizean taxpayers.

The issue has since sparked broader conversations surrounding government spending priorities, healthcare expansion, and social assistance when compared to the previous UDP administration, which failed in every way possible.

Supporters of the current administration argue that while taxpayer funding is indeed the backbone of national programs, the key distinction lies in how those resources are managed and redistributed to citizens. They point to expanded access to education assistance, healthcare services through the National Health Insurance program, and increased community investments as examples of a more direct return on public revenue.

Prime Minister Hon. John Briceño defended the government's long-term approach to healthcare financing and social development while responding to criticism surrounding the National Health Insurance program.

"I wish the leader of the opposition would do her work and understand, NHI is providing primary healthcare, and when you see some people say I will go to NHI and pay two dollars, because the government, through the taxpayers and through the Boledo, where we put about twenty million dollars into NHI to help pay for that."

Prime Minister Briceño explained that the current focus remains on strengthening accessible primary healthcare nationwide while laying the groundwork for expanded services in the future. According to the Prime Minister, the long-term goal is to eventually provide broader secondary and tertiary healthcare options through partnerships and pooled financing models already used in other countries.

Government supporters have pointed to the expansion of education assistance and healthcare coverage as evidence of increased reinvestment into Belizean communities. They argue that thousands of Belizeans now benefit daily from programs that either did not exist previously or operated on a much smaller scale.

The debate has also reopened discussions about fiscal management under past administrations. Pointing to the United Democratic Party administration, high public borrowing and controversial government contracts had become subjects of national scrutiny and political debate over the years. Much of that actually spelled doom for them as they matched up against planBelize; the UDP has no chance.

While UDP political mudslinging continues, many Belizeans agree on one central point: public funds should translate into meaningful services that improve daily life for citizens. Rising costs of fuel and the strain on the global supply chain associated with the war in Iran have made social support programs more important than ever for vulnerable households. Financial aid for tuition, transportation, uniforms, and school supplies is a necessary assistance for many families.

At the same time, the expansion of the National Health Insurance program continues to draw attention as more residents gain access to affordable medical services. GOB says the broader objective is to strengthen healthcare accessibility while reducing long-term financial burdens on ordinary Belizeans.

The wider national conversation now centers less on whether taxpayers fund these initiatives and more on how effectively those resources are managed, distributed, and transformed into services that directly benefit them.

As public discussions continue, it highlights the transparency, accountability, and measurable results that this administration is entrusted with managing the country's finances.

NATIONAL BUS COMPANY
2026
WE ARE HIRING!
CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER (CEO)
National Bus Company (NBC) is seeking a highly competent, dynamic and results-driven leader to serve as our Chief Executive Officer.
The Role
The CEO is the highest-ranking executive responsible for the overall leadership, strategic direction and operational performance of NBC. The CEO will work closely with the Board of Directors, senior management and key stakeholders to ensure sustainable growth, operational excellence and exceptional service to the people of Belize.
QUALIFICATIONS AND EXPERIENCE
The CEO should possess:
A Master's Degree in Business Administration, Transport Management, Public Administration, Finance, Engineering, Logistics, Project Management, Economics, or a related field;
Minimum of ten (10) years senior executive management experience, preferably in transportation, logistics, infrastructure, utilities, or large-scale operations;
Demonstrated experience in organizational transformation, financial management, and strategic leadership;
Strong understanding of corporate governance, labour relations, and operational management;
READY TO DRIVE CHANGE?
APPLY TODAY!
Submit your cover letter, detailed resume and references to the Board of Directors at:
info@nbcbelize.com
CALL US
616-2713
EMAIL US
info@nbcbelize.com
NATIONAL BUS COMPANY
Together We Are NBC

WORK CONTINUES IN 2026

PM John Briceño

At Talent Up Event

Hon. Louis Zabaneh (Dangriga)

Visiting w/ the People

Hon. Dolores Balderamos Garcia, Belize Rural Central

Dolores Cup Tournament

Hon. Osmond Martinez, Toledo East

PlanBelize Starter home delivered

San Lorenzo, OWTC w/ Community Project

OW Town Council Home Composting Program

Min. Oscar Requena, Rural Transformation

Public Consultation on Village Boundaries

Corozal North Executive

Pantry Bag Outreach

Punta Gorda Town Council

Repairs to Bridge at Charles Westby St.

Belmopan Town Council

Community Meetings Continue

At 'Made in Belize Expo'

NICH and Area Rep Martinez

Andy Palacio Monument in process at Barranco

Cashew Fest, Crooked Tree

Hon. Marconi's Belize Rural North

Special Guest, Hon. Mai

MOTHER's DAY 2026

Mayor Mariano in Dangriga

Hon. Monchi in San Antonio OW North

Dangriga TC w/ Hon. Requena & Zabaneh

Local Government Donates Motocycles

Hon. Gilroy Usher, Port Loyola

Visiting with Mothers

PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

'SEGUIMOS MUY BIEN'

Highlights
Cashew Fest 2026
Crooked Tree Village
Belize Rural North, Hon. Marconi Leal

Belize Coast Guard
49 New Sailors: Recruit Intake #12
Passing Out Ceremony

The Belize Coast Guard proudly welcomed forty-nine new sailors during the Passing Out Ceremony for Recruit Intake Number Twelve.

After thirteen demanding weeks of training, these recruits have officially transitioned into service members committed to protecting Belize's maritime security, sovereignty, and national interests.

In her keynote address, Hon. Dolores Balderamos Garcia, commended the recruits for their discipline, resilience, and commitment to service, while encouraging them to uphold the Coast Guard's core values of Courage, Commitment, and Respect.

Congratulations to Recruit Intake Number Twelve.

Serve with honor. Serve with pride. Serve Belize. (BCC post)

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its General Services Department.

The Administrative Assistant serves as a vital liaison for the Assistant Manager's office and Unit within the General Services Department, facilitating seamless communication with internal and external stakeholders and ensuring the timely execution of all unit-specific duties and responsibilities.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Manage and coordinate internal and external communications, including screening inquiries, responding to correspondence, and drafting documents for review and signature.
- Provide administrative support through effective planning, scheduling, and prioritization of activities.
- Maintain and coordinate the Assistant Manager's calendar, including meetings, appointments, and travel arrangements.
- Coordinate meetings and conferences, including the preparation of agendas, supporting documentation, and minute-taking.
- Monitor and follow up on assignments and directives to ensure all priority matters meet established deadlines.
- Maintain records and filings system in accordance with established guidelines, upholding confidentiality at all times.
- Support general office operations, including supplies management and administrative processes.
- Perform other duties as required to support the department's functions.

The applicant should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A minimum of an associate's degree in business administration, or a related field from a recognized tertiary institution, preferably with at least two (2) years of relevant experience.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of office administration and confidentiality standards; Strong communication (oral and written), customer service, and relation-building skills; Project management skills; Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Initiative, Interpersonal Relations, Organizational Ability, Analytical Ability, Communication, Customer Focus, Job Knowledge, Quality of Output, Deportment, Problem Solving/Judgement.

Submit the following documents by **Wednesday, 27 May 2026**:

- Central Bank Employment Form (available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates
- Two (2) current references (at least one must be from a previous or current employer)

Applications should be addressed to:

Manager, Human Resources Department
Central Bank of Belize
P O Box 852 or Gabourel Lane
Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Administrative Assistant- General Services

Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

STREET CONSTRUCTION PROJECT SOUTH OF COTTON TREE VILLAGE

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH), intends to execute the Street Construction Project South of Cotton Tree Village in the Cayo District.

Provided there are no delays, Works are expected to start within a month. The MIDH hereby invites interested contractors with experience in road and street construction to be part of this bidding process.

The Scope of Works will include:

- Site Clearing & Grubbing
- Removal of Topsoil
- Structural Fill (Provisional)
- Subbase and Base Layers
- New Culvert Construction
- Construction of V-Drains

The Project is being implemented by the MIDH, Project Execution Unit (PEU). An Engineering Coordinator within the PEU will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project activities.

Consideration will be given to local firms who have qualified extensive experience in road and street construction of a similar size and complexity.

Minimum Qualification Criteria:

- General Construction Experience: 3 Years
- Specific Construction Experience in Road and Street Construction
- Contract Management Experience: 3 Years
- Construction Experience in a Project of Similar Size and Complexity (one)
- Access to Line of Credit: $100,000.00
- Average annual turnover of minimum: Bz$250,000.00
- Qualified registered Engineer: 3 years' experience

Effective **Monday 25 May 2026**, Bidding Documents are available at a cost of **Bz$250.00** from the address below.

Bidders shall submit proposals (one original and one copy) in a sealed envelope to the address below. The sealed envelope containing each submission must include the name and address of the applicant and be clearly marked "**Bid Submission for the Street Construction Project South of Cotton Tree Village**".

All Bidding Documents shall reach the office of the Chief Engineer/Engineering Coordinator at the address below no later than **Friday 5 June 2026** at **10:00 a.m**. Late submissions will not be accepted under any circumstances. The Ministry shall not accept responsibility for any costs incurred by the applicants.

A site visit will be held on **Thursday 28 May 2026** at **10:00am** at the project site. Bidders shall congregate at the Cotton Tree Primary School.

Attention: **Mr. Evondale Moody**
Chief Engineer / Engineering Coordinator
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane
Belmopan
BELIZE C.A.
Tel: +501-828-5221
Email: peu@midh.gov.bz

MINISTRY OF INFRASTRUCTURE DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING

PROCUREMENT NOTICE

ST. JUDE R.C. PRIMARY SCHOOL BUILDING CONSTRUCTION PROJECT, CAMALOTE VILLAGE, CAYO DISTRICT

The Government of Belize (GOB), through the Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing (MIDH), is committed to enhancing educational opportunities at St. Jude R.C. Primary School in Camalote Village, Cayo District. This initiative, known as "the Project," aims to construct new classroom spaces, thereby improving access to quality education for the students. The new facility will comprise of seven (7) classrooms with supporting administrative, sanitary, and circulation spaces over two storeys.

Provided there are no delays, the Project is expected to commence in July 2026. The MIDH hereby invites interested contractors to be a part of this bidding process. The Project is being implemented by the MIDH, Project Execution Unit (PEU). A Project Engineer within the PEU will be responsible for the day-to-day management of project activities.

The scope of works will include:

- Undertaking preliminary and site establishment works
- Construction of foundation
- Construction of beams
- Construction of slabs
- Construction of columns
- Construction of walls
- Construction of roof
- Construction of ceiling
- Construction of stair and ramp
- Undertaking finishing works
- Supply and installation of doors
- Supply and installation of windows
- Undertaking plumbing installations
- Undertaking electrical installations
- Supply and installation of furniture and classroom fixtures

Consideration will be given to local contractors that possess qualified experience in building construction projects of a similar size and complexity.

Minimum Qualification Criteria:

- Provision of audited or unaudited financial statements for the years ending 2022, 2023, and 2024
- General Construction Experience: Five (5) years
- Specific Construction Experience: Complete, between January 1, 2015, and the bid submission deadline, less than or equal to four (4) contracts, each with a minimum value of Bz$150,000.00, but with a total value of all contracts equal to or more than Bz$600,000.00. The similarity of the contracts shall be based on new construction works for a structure that possesses greater than or equal to 3,000 square feet.
- Access to Line of Credit: Bz$200,000.00 of which not more than Bz$100,000.00 can be credit for materials.
- Average annual construction turnover for the years ending 2022, 2023, and 2024 of a minimum of Bz$400,000.00 per year.
- Project manager who is an Association of Professional Engineers of Belize (APEB) registered Engineer with 5 years of construction management experience as a registered Engineer.

Effective **Monday 25 May 2026**, Bidding Documents are available at a cost of **Bz$250.00** from the address below.

There are two options for submitting the bidding information. These are:

(a) By electronic submission, in pdf format, to the email address indicated below. The submission will be deemed to have been received at the time that it is received by the PEU. The burden of proving receipt of the email will be on the applicant and will not be met solely by a read receipt or sent items report generated by the bidder's computer; or

(b) By submission of one original and one hard copy, by hand or by registered mail, in a sealed envelope to the address below. The sealed envelope containing each submission must include the name and address of the applicant.

All Bidding Documents shall reach the office of the Chief Engineer at the address below no later than **Friday 5 June 2026,** at **10:00 am**. The Ministry shall not be bound to assign any reason for not qualifying any contractor and shall not accept responsibility for any costs incurred by the applicants.

A site visit will be conducted on **Thursday 28 May 2026** at **10:00 am** at the project site in Camalote Village, Cayo District.

Attention: **Mr. Evondale Moody**
Chief Engineer / Engineering Coordinator
Ministry of Infrastructure Development and Housing
Power Lane
Belmopan
BELIZE C.A.
Tel: +501-828-5221
Email: peu@midh.gov.bz

TENDER NOTICE

Request for Bids (RFB) for Non-Consulting Services

PROVISION OF SECURITY AND SURVEILLANCE SERVICES FOR THE BELIZE SENIOR COURTS AND RELATED FACILITIES

The Senior Courts of Belize invites sealed bids from eligible and qualified licensed security companies for the provision of general security, surveillance, and related security support services for the Belize Senior Courts and associated facilities, for a period of **two (2) years**, commencing **June 1, 2026, and ending May 31, 2028.**

The security services shall cover the following locations and assignment:

1. **Senior Court Building, Court of Appeal and Supreme Court Law Library Building** - Belize City - Belize City
2. **Old Treasury Building** -Belize City
3. **Old National Bank Building** -Belize City
4. **Chief Justice's Residence** – Belize City
5. **Residences of the Justices of the Senior Courts** – (4) Belize City, (2) Belmopan
6. **Daily bank deposits for the General Registry Department** – Belize City

Scope of Services

The services shall include, but not be limited to, access control, surveillance, monitoring of assigned premises, protection of personnel and property, incident reporting, crowd control where necessary, support to court security operations, and secure escort services for daily bank deposits.

Except for the daily bank deposits for the General Registry Department, all security services required under this tender shall be provided by unarmed security personnel. Armed security shall be required only for the daily bank deposit assignment. The winning company will be required to submit valid police records for all listed/ proposed guards under this contract.

The successful bidder shall be required to provide security and surveillance services as follows:

No.	Location / Assignment	Type of Security	Number of Guards	Days Required	Hours Required
1	**Senior Court Building**	Unarmed	7 guards	Monday to Friday	6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
		Unarmed	2 guards	7 days per week	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
		Unarmed	2 guards	Weekends	6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
2	**Old Treasury Building**	Unarmed	3 guards	Monday to Friday	6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
		Unarmed	2 guards	7 days per week	6:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
3	**Old Treasury Building Cashier**	Unarmed	1 guard	Monday to Thursday	8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.
		Unarmed	1 guard	Friday	8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
4	**Old National Bank Building**	Unarmed	2 guards	7 days per week	24-hour security
5	**Chief Justice's Residence**	Unarmed	1 guard	7 days per week	24-hour security
6	**Residences of the Justices of the Senior Courts**	Unarmed	6 guards	7 days per week	12-hour security
7	**Daily Bank Deposits for the General Registry Department**	Armed escort/service	As required	Daily (as required)	For secure movement and deposit of funds

The coverage requirements stated above include public and bank holidays. Bidders must, therefore, ensure that their proposed staffing plan and financial proposal fully account for service requirements on such days.

Eligibility and Minimum Requirements

Interested bidders must submit evidence of the following requirements:

1. A **company profile** outlining the company's history, expertise, and qualifications.
2. A detailed description of the **work schedule and approach** to perform the service, including information on staffing and deployment plan for all assigned locations, adequate guard deployment capacity to perform the required services and capacity to provide armed security for daily bank deposits
3. Valid **Trade License**
4. **Certificate of Incorporation**
5. Valid **Certificates of Good Standing** from the Belize Tax Service, the Social Security Board and the Belize Companies and Corporate Affairs Registry
6. Valid **firearm licences** and authorizations for any armed personnel proposed for the bank deposit assignment
7. Employer's Liability **Insurance**
8. Public Liability and/or Third-Party Liability Insurance
9. A **list of contracts** with existing or previous customers with whom similar work has been conducted, particularly from government agencies or other large companies/ organizations.
10. List three (3) **reference letters** from past clients
11. Proposed **supervision and reporting arrangements**
12. Proposed **emergency response and incident reporting procedures**
13. **Financial proposal** showing the cost of services for the full two-year period

Site Visits

Bidders may choose to visit the facilities to be guarded to properly assess the requirements and prepare their bids. The cost incurred to visit the facilities and to prepare and submit bids shall be the sole responsibility of the bidder.

Submission of Bids

Bids must be submitted for the entire scope of services. Bids submitted for partial scope of services will be disqualified.

Bid prices must be in Belize Dollars and include all applicable taxes.

Bids must be submitted in sealed envelopes clearly marked:

"BID FOR SECURITY SERVICES FOR THE BELIZE SENIOR COURTS AND RELATED FACILITIES"

One (1) original and two (2) copies of Bids must be delivered no later than: **Friday, May 22, 2026, at 5:00 p.m. Belize Time** to:

Finance Officer
Belize Senior Courts
Treasury Lane
Belize City, Belize

Late bids will not be accepted and will be returned unopened.

The lowest-priced bid will not necessarily be accepted.

Clarifications

Requests for clarification must be submitted by email to **financeofficer@belizejudiciary.org** no later than **Monday, May 18, 2026.**

Reservation of Rights

The Senior Courts of Belize, through the General Registry Department, reserves the right to cancel this tender process at any time without providing any explanation and without incurring any cost.

Ministry of Investment - UNIDO

Preliminary Findings on Belize's Industrial Strategy

"*Blue and Green Industrial Policies is poised to guide Belize toward a new era*"

May 19, 2026 - The Office of the Prime Minister, through the Investment Policy and Compliance Unit (IPCU) in the Ministry of Investment, in collaboration with the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), is developing Belize's first Industrial Strategy with Green and Blue Industrial Policies. The validation workshop for the preliminary country diagnostics and research findings was held at the UWI Conference Center in Belize City. It brought together over 50 participants, including senior government officials and private sector stakeholders.

The preliminary strategy identified three green and three blue economic activities that have the potential to be profitable and can diversify the Belizean economy. The methodology included an analysis of the value chains associated with the six priority economic activities. The green value chains with significant growth potential are cacao and chocolate, coconut, and bio-based industrial products (including bioenergy, compostables, and agro-processing). The blue value chains highlighted are seaweed, fisheries and aquaculture, and boatbuilding.

By adopting a green and blue industrial policy approach, Belize seeks to promote value addition and improve productivity and competitiveness through resource efficiency and environmentally sustainable industrialization, aligning with global efforts to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. The validation session underscored Belize's commitment to diversifying its economy, enhancing productivity, and creating new opportunities for sustainable economic growth.

Present at the validation session were Mrs. Narda Garcia,

CEO, Office of the Prime Minister and the Ministries of Investment and Civil Aviation; Mrs. Beverly Wade, CEO, Ministry of Blue Economy and Marine Conservation; Dr. Nobuya Haraguchi, Chief of the Economic Research Section, UNIDO; and Mr. Dominic Koc, Junior Research Economist, UNIDO.

Also in attendance were representatives of the Investment Policy and Compliance Unit (IPCU) in the Ministry of Investment; BELTRAIDE; the Economic Development Council; the Ministry of Agriculture and New Growth Industries; the Directorate General for Foreign Trade; the Public-Private Partnership Unit; the University of Belize; the Belize Chamber of Commerce and Industry; and other government and non-governmental organizations. The Ministry highlights the participation of the private sector stakeholders representing the six economic activities that have been prioritized.

The Industrial Strategy with Blue and Green Industrial Policies is poised to guide Belize toward a new era of economic growth, higher-value economic activities, resilience, innovation, and environm ental responsibility. (release)

MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS
Equal Health for All
PROTECT
Yourself and Your Family
AGAINST
MEASLES
MEASLES
is serious but
PREVENTABLE.
WHO SHOULD GET VACCINATED?
• CHILDREN:
Two doses as part of routine immunization at 12 and 18 months of age.
• UNVACCINATED INDIVIDUALS (OVER 18 MONTHS OLD):
Two doses, given one month apart.
1
• INDIVIDUALS WHO RECEIVED ONLY ONE DOSE:
An additional dose is recommended.
• PERSONS UNSURE OF THEIR VACCINATION STATUS:
One dose is advised.
TRAVEL GUIDANCE
TRAVELERS (12 months +)
Ensure vaccination at least two weeks prior to travel.
TRAVELERS (under 1 Year)
Consult a healthcare provider for guidance.

NO UDP SITTING DUCKS AVAILABLE

Trying their best to remain relevant, whenever Tracy Panton and her floundering cabal of so-called party executives don't know what next to do, they call another feeble press conference. But the staged performances keep getting weaker, less dramatic and more pathetic.

This past Tuesday was their worst ever, and the most memorable thing about it was the response, or lack thereof, by their Chairlady on their lack of readiness for the upcoming municipal elections in early 2027. A reporter asked the most obviously relevant question, "Does your party have candidates for the upcoming elections in the various municipalities countrywide?"

Well, we have never heard a more circuitous, evasive answer to any question before. Around the mulberry bush she went several times before coming up with the ridiculous response that they are waiting for all their ducks to be in a row before making any such announcement.

The truth, which everybody in political circles knows, and even the pompous, pontificating proprietor of Channel 7 concedes, is that the UDP is unelectable and nobody of any quality or substance wants to run for that party under Tracy.

There are simply no ducks to line up because ducks have been ducking and dodging, knowing that to run for the UDP right now is to be sitting ducks facing one fate, that of being slaughtered by the PUP.

Belizeans remain overwhelmingly in support of the Briceño Government, and for good reason. The progress under this administration has been steady and unwavering, despite domestic and global challenges brought on by geopolitical conflict with consequences and repercussions such as rising cost of oil and fuel around the world.

So, once again, Tracy's UDP fell flat on its face. The more they try, the more they fail, the more they flop. No one personifies the strained and futile attempt at relevance by Tracy's UDP than her insulting chairlady. She really tries too hard to make an impression, to the point of being comical.

Again, her own UDP predecessor as Chairman, Alberto August, had the best characterization of her latest act at theatre and drama. "This is NOT the time to be acting cute in front of the media, because acting cute does not an election win. Of the 67 municipal candidates required, the Opposition has 6, while the PUP has 60," he posted on his Facebook Page.

This UDP bunch noh serious, and they noh ready!

Training Programme

National Helmet Standards & Regulation

May 20 - The Department of Transport, in partnership with the FIA Foundation and the Belize Automobile Touring Association (BATA), officially commenced the first day of the National Helmet Standards & Regulation Training Programme today in Belmopan.

Frontline transport and police officers were briefed on helmet safety and the enforcement of Belize Bureau of Standards' requirements, including compliance with internationally recognized safety ratings for all motorcyclists.

This landmark initiative marks a major step forward in the Government's commitment to saving lives and enhancing road safety across Belize. (post)

LIQUOR LICENSE NOTICES

Notice is hereby given that **Mario Haj** is applying for a **Restaurant Liquor License** to be operated at **"Crema Caffe"** located at 2 ½ Mls. P.G.Hwy., Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Cruz E. Lopez** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Carmen's Mini Shop"** located at # 9234 Barbara Harris Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

Notice is hereby given that **Cheryl Dixon** is applying for a **Shop Liquor License** to be operated at **"Miss Joy's Shop"** located at Res. Banak Street, Belize City, Belize District under the Intoxicating Liquor License Ordinance Revised Edition 1980.

BELIZE Social Investment Fund

IDB Inter-American Development Bank

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Country:	Belize
Project:	Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas
Loan/Credit/Grant No.:	BL-L1045 (5753/OC-BL)
Institution:	Belize Social Investment Fund
Abstract:	National consultancy to Design and Implement Training Programs for Village Water Boards with Gender and Diversity Approach in the selected beneficiary local
Contract/Bid No.:	BL-L1045-P00009
Deadline:	June 12, 2026

The Government of Belize (GOBZ) has received financing from the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), towards the cost of the Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas and intends to apply part of the proceeds for consulting services.

The consulting services ("the Services") for National consultancy to Design and Implement Training Programs for Village Water Boards with Gender and Diversity Approach in the selected beneficiary local. The objective is to strengthen the institutional capacity of VWBs through comprehensive training, enhancing their technical, financial, and management capabilities, and fostering inclusive participation, particularly of women and underrepresented groups in the water sector.

Scope of Services

1.1. Needs assessment and Training
- Conduct an initial assessment to identify current knowledge gaps and training needs in O&M, financial management, and water source protection, with emphasis on climate change mitigation and adaptation.
- Engage with key stakeholders to compile relevant existing resources, enabling the development of materials that build upon established work.
- Develop a gender-sensitive and culturally tailored training curriculum that addresses identified needs and aligns with local contexts.

1.2. Training Implementation
- Conduct training sessions covering effective O&M practices, financial planning, and sustainable water resource management, integrating climate change considerations and strategies to address drought, flooding, and forest fires.

1.3. Monitoring and Evaluation
- Develop a framework to measure training outcomes and participant progress.
- Conduct pre- and post-training assessments to evaluate the effectiveness of the training and provide feedback for continuous improvement.

The BSIF now invites eligible consulting firms ("Consultants") to indicate their interest in providing the Services. Interested Consultants should provide information demonstrating that they have the required qualifications and relevant experience to perform the Services.

From the expressions of interest received, the Executing Agency will prepare a short list comprising not fewer than five (5) and not more than eight (8) eligible firms.

Consultants will be selected in accordance with the procedures set out in the Inter-American Development Bank: Policies for the Selection and Contracting of Consultants financed by the InterAmerican Development Bank GN-2350-15 and is open to all eligible bidders as defined in the policies.

Consultants may associate with other firms in the form of a joint venture to enhance their qualifications. For the purpose of establishing the short list, the nationality of a firm is that of the country in which it is legally incorporated or constituted and in the case of Joint Venture, the nationality of the firm appointed to represent it.

In the assessment of submissions, consideration will be given to consulting firms' technical competence, qualifications and experience in relation to providing services in design and implementing water resource management or similar water sector training programs, as well as local and regional experience, and existing commitments. Technical competence of Key Experts will not be evaluated at the shortlisting stage.

A Consultant will be selected in accordance with the ***QCBS method*** set out in the Consultant Policies. Further information can be obtained at the address below during office hours of ***8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. Monday to Friday (Local Belize Time), except on Public Holidays.***

Expressions of interest must be delivered in a written form to the address below (in person, or by mail, or by e-mail) by ***June 12, 2026 at 2:00 p.m.*** The submission should include the name and address of the applicant and shall be clearly marked ***"Expression of Interest – Consultancy to Design and Implement Training Programs for Village Water Boards with Gender and Diversity Approach"***

Attention:
Procurement Officer
Belize Social Investment Fund
Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway
Belmopan, Belize
Telephone: 822-0239 or 822-0508/9
E-mail: kyla.cho@sifbelize.org
Cc: carlos.tun@sifbelize.org
angeles.itzab@sifbelize.org

Voice of the Common Man

TALENT UP BELIZE: SCALING REGIONAL IMPACT THROUGH DIGITAL SKILLS

By Hilly Bennett

"*Today's workshop speaks directly to the talent pillar which focuses on upskilling, reskilling, and preparing Belizeans to thrive in new technologies, innovation-driven industries, and emerging market opportunities*," - CEO Narda Garcia.

May 20 – On the banks of the Haulover Creek, at the Grand Resort and Hotel, there was another breakthrough moment with the Talent Up Belize Operational workshop: Ecosystem Establishment. It was also another milestone initiative with the Office of the Prime Minister (OPM) leading the charge with the support of BELTRAIDE, the IDB Group and Google Cloud.

According to its brochure, Talent Up is a regional initiative that strengthens digital talent, boost competitiveness, and aligns training with industry needs. Through a strategic alliance with Google Cloud, it brings together government, academia, TVET institutions, companies, and industry associations to build skills for a more productive, digitally enabled economy.

Kayla Gonzalez, In-Country Representative for the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) in the opening remarks posited that the workshop represented a pivotal moment in Belize's digital transformation, which aims to upscaling the Business Process Outsourcing (BPO) sector towards more advanced services and new working opportunities.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO), OPM, Narda Garcia proffered that, "*The Talent Up Belize initiative helps us to address this challenge by strengthening coordination among government, academia, industry, and Technology partners*". The challenge being the disconnect between workforce development and economic priorities.

Additionally, the initiative is aligned with Belize's broader Innovation Roadmap and the Innovation Pact that was established between the IDB and the Government of Belize, understanding that innovation is a key engine for national growth and competitiveness.

Prime Minister, John Briceño defined the momentous occasion as preparing Belize for the future. Identifying that, "*Around the world, economies are being transformed by artificial intelligence, cloud computing, cyber security, automation, digital services,*

and rapid technological innovation." Expounding that, "*Entire industries are evolving. New careers are emerging. Traditional jobs are being redefined. And countries that will succeed in this new era are those that invest not only in infrastructure and technology, but in people*." Understanding that there can never be true development without development of people.

This Government, led by PM Briceño recognizes that the level of Belize's workforce is not adequately skilled to compete in the international marketplace. An anomaly that existed since the country's colonial past. But with initiative such as the newly launched Talent Up Belize Operational Workshop it embodies the government bold attempt to resolve the skills-gap anomaly, especially in the fast-changing technological world.

The echoing sentiment of CEO Garcia validating the benefits of the initiative. Garcia submitted that, "*For Belize, digital transformation is no longer viewed solely as a technology issue. It is directly connected to investment attraction, business climate reform, workforce competitiveness, public sector modernization, entrepreneurship, and ultimately, long-term national resilience.*" A vision reflective of a series of national initiatives that is continuously being implemented by the Government of Belize to develop industries and prepare the workforce for future economic opportunities.

However, as CEO Garcia surgi-

cally elucidated, "*Innovation requires coordination. It requires institutions working together through knowledge sharing, mentorship, infrastructure development, financing mechanism, data exchange, and strategic collaboration. Most importantly, it requires a shared national vision.*"

Understandably, the Talent Up Belize Operational Workshop initiative underscores the government's ongoing commitment to ensuring that the digital transformation and innovation benefits all Belizeans, including women, youth, entrepreneurs, MSMEs, and underserved communities. It leaves no one behind, and recognizes that the working man and woman, Belize's human capital, remains the Jewel's greatest national assets. As the PM concluding remark signalled, "***Let us build a Belize where innovation thrives.***"

BELIZE Social Investment Fund

IDB Inter-American Development Bank

REQUEST FOR EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST CONSULTING SERVICES

Public advertisement

Selection of an Individual consultant

Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas
BL-L1045 (5753/OC-BL)
BL-L1045-P00010- National Consultancy for Design, Development, and Deployment of an Integrated Utility Management Platform for Village Water Boards

1. The ***Government of Belize*** (the "Borrower") has *received* financing from the ***Inter-American Development Bank (IDB)*** (the "Bank") toward the cost of ***Water and Sanitation Program for Rural Areas***. The ***Belize Social Investment Fund (BSIF),*** an executing agency of the Borrower, intends to apply a portion of the proceeds of this loan to perform the consulting services (hereinafter called "Services"): ***National Consultancy for Design, Development, and Deployment of an Integrated Utility Management Platform for Village Water Boards*** More details on the Services are provided in the Terms of Reference.

2. An individual consultant will be selected under procedures, in accordance with the Policy for the Selection and Contracting of Consulting Services financed by the IDB (GN-2350-15) which can be found at the following website: www.iadb.org/procurement.

3. Interested eligible consultants may obtain a complete set of documents and further information at the address given below from Mondays –Friday, ***8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.*** **(Local Belize Time)**

4. Your expression of interest accompanied by your curriculum vitae should be submitted by ***June 5, 2026 at 2:00 p.m. (Local Belize Time),*** in writing to the address given below. *The submission should include the name and address of the applicant and shall be clearly marked* ***"Design, Development, and Deployment of an Integrated Utility Management Platform for Village Water Boards"***

Address for requesting documents and information
Belize Social Investment Fund
Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway
Belmopan, Belize
kyla.cho@sifbelize.org
Cc: carlos.tun@sifbelize.org

Address for submitting CV
Attention: ***Executive Director***
Belize Social Investment Fund
Building C, 4253 Hummingbird Highway
Belmopan, Belize
carlos.tun@sifbelize.org, angeles.itzab@sifbelize.org
cc: kyla.cho@sifbelize.org

Consultancy Services to Develop a Digital Workspace for the Public Sector Investment Programme

Publication reference: TCF/NDICI/PE1/SER/MIS/02

The Ministry of Finance, Investment, **Economic Transformation**, Civil Aviation & E-Governance intends to award a service contract to develop a digital workspace for the Public Sector Investment Programme in Belmopan, Belize with financial assistance from the European Union Technical Cooperation Facility. The tender dossier is accessible from the Ministry of Economic Transformation, Sir Edney Cain Building, Belmopan, Belize by emailing procurement@met.gov.bz or from the the Ministry's website at https://met.gov.bz/tender/.

The deadline for submission of applications is **23rd June 2026 at 10:00 a.m.** local time.

EmpowerHer Corozal!

The EmpowerHer sessions has been absolutely electric, serving as the perfect, high-impact conclusion to this empowering journey! From breakthrough insights this morning to the powerful strategic connections made, Corozal's women entrepreneurs showed up ready to elevate their leadership and master their financial confidence.

A definitive highlight of the day was our Fireside Chat: "Empowered Women Empower Others," featuring Mrs. Narda Garcia, Chief Executive Officer in the Office of the Prime Minister, Investment and Civil Aviation. Her insights into investment and the importance of women supporting women left the room inspired and ready to lead with purpose.

Fully participating in the workshop were Hon. Thea Garcia-Ramirez, Minister of Human Development, Family Support, and Gender Affairs and Area Representative of Corozal Bay, Mrs. Shajarie Rogers, and President of the PUP Corozal Bay United Women's Group.

Over the course of the training, women from all walks of life participated in engaging and interactive sessions focused on self-leadership, emotional intelligence, financial literacy, personal branding, and marketing strategies. Participants were encouraged to openly share their experiences while gaining valuable knowledge and practical skills to support both their personal and professional growth.

Day two featured an inspiring fireside chat with Mrs. Narda Garcia, CEO, the Office of the Prime Minister, Investments, and Civil Aviation, where participants gained meaningful insights on leadership, empowerment, and opportunities for women. The training concluded with a powerful vision board activity, allowing participants to reflect on their goals, aspirations, and future ambitions.

The EmpowerHer Training served as a meaningful opportunity to empower, inspire, and uplift women within our community, reinforcing the importance of confidence, leadership, continuous learning, and supporting one another as women striving for growth and success.

BELTRAIDE expresses a massive congratulations to all the phenomenal women who joined us and received their certificates today. By investing in your growth, you are driving real economic impact.

National Women's Commission
Gender Awareness & Unconscious Bias Training Workshop

On May 14th and 15th, the National Women's Commission facilitated a Gender Awareness & Unconscious Bias Training Workshop for heads of management from the Development Finance Corporation across Belize in Belmopan.

The workshop created an engaging and reflective space for discussion on gender equality, equity, unconscious bias, inclusive leadership, and equitable workplace practices. These topics reinforced the importance of intentional decision-making in building stronger, more inclusive departments.

Participants provided overwhelmingly positive feedback, sharing that the training raised a deeper level of self-awareness and consciousness within themselves, expanding their knowledge on gender-related issues, and reinforced the important distinction between Sex and Gender.

The session encouraged participants to reflect on how unconscious bias can influence workplace interactions, leadership opportunities, and service delivery.

Through continued capacity building initiatives like these, The National Women's Commission remains committed to fostering inclusive, equitable, and gender-responsive workplaces throughout Belize. (post)

CENTRAL BANK of BELIZE

CAREER OPPORTUNITY

SOFTWARE ENGINEER

The Central Bank invites qualified individuals to join its Information Technology Department.

The Software Engineer will support the development, maintenance, and optimization of enterprise systems and databases, ensuring the integrity, security, and availability of critical data assets.

ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Design, implement, and maintain robust and secure database systems, including backup, recovery, and data archiving solutions.
- Monitor and optimize database performance, storage, and system efficiency.
- Troubleshoot and resolve database access, performance, and integrity issues.
- Develop and maintain database models, architecture, and technical documentation.
- Enforce data security standards, access controls, and compliance with enterprise policies.
- Support application development through database design, coding standards, and testing processes.
- Collaborate with business stakeholders in the planning, design, and development of new applications and enhancements to existing applications.
- Conduct system reviews and recommend improvements to enhance efficiency and effectiveness.
- Perform audits, monitor logs, and address vulnerabilities to ensure system reliability and security.
- Perform other duties as required to support the department's functions.

The applicant should possess the following:

EDUCATION AND EXPERIENCE

- A minimum qualification of a bachelor's degree in information technology or a related field from a recognized university, with at least five (5) years of relevant experience.

TECHNICAL KNOWLEDGE

- Knowledge of designing, building, installing, configuring, and supporting database servers, including Oracle and Microsoft SQL Server; Hands-on experience with database tuning and troubleshooting; Knowledge of database processing flowcharting techniques; Proficiency in Microsoft Office Suite.

COMPETENCIES

- Initiative, Interpersonal Relations, Organizational Ability, Analytical Ability, Communication, Customer Focus, Job Knowledge, Quality of Output, Decision Making, Problem Solving/Judgement.

Submit the following documents by **Wednesday, 27 May 2026**:

- Central Bank Employment Form (available online)
- Curriculum Vitae
- Copies of university transcripts, degrees, and any other personal certificates
- Two (2) current references (at least one must be from a previous or current employer)

Applications should be addressed to:

Manager, Human Resources Department
Central Bank of Belize
P O Box 852 or Gabourel Lane
Belize City, BELIZE

Ref: Software Engineer- Information Technology Department

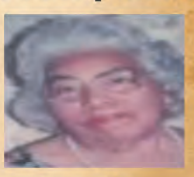
Email: hr@centralbank.org.bz or online at www.centralbank.org.bz
(All applications will be held in strict confidence.)

MOTHER

By Hon. Gilroy Usher

From conception mother saw us as a blessing
She ensured a home of love and understanding
Mother taught us right from wrong calmly
And sent us to school fully prepared daily

Mother taught us to look before we leap
She made sure we had a good place to sleep
Mother taught us to work and have ambition
It was, thus, easy for us to choose an occupation



Mother demanded good friends and rest
Of all the mothers, our mother is the best

HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY
THANK YOU FOR EVERY SACRIPICE,
EVERY LESSON AND EVERY MOMENT OF LOVE.

PUP
PEOPLE'S UNITED PARTY

MINISTRY OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT,
CLIMATE CHANGE & SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

The National Climate Change Office is hiring!

VACANCIES

To obtain the complete Terms of Reference detailing more info, email:
Passt.cc@environment.gov.bz
with CC to info.cc@environment.gov.bz

DEADLINE: 29TH , MAY 2025, 5:00 PM

- Project Support Officer
  - 15 Months Subject to Renewal
- Mitigation Officer
  - 12 Months Subject to Renewal

APPLY NOW

Join the National Climate Change Office and be part of a dynamic team driving Belize's transition toward a more sustainable and resilient future!

IN LOVING MEMORY OF

Mrs. Leonila Reyes

Miss Tux

SUNRISE
January 17, 1948

SUNSET
May 18, 2026

Your life was a blessing,
your memory a treasure, you are loved
beyond words and missed beyond measure.

National Bus Compy Ltd
3rd Floor, 1902 Constitution Drive, Unit 1
Belmopan City, Belize C.A
Phone: +501-616-2713 Email: info@nbcbelize.com
Your Journey. Our Mission. Belize First.

PRESS RELEASE

Belmopan - May 19, 2026 - The National Bus Company (NBC) expresses sincere appreciation to Ms Susana Vanzie for her service and Leadership during the Company's initial three-month transition period.

NBC remains fully committed to the continued follout and strenghtening of its national transporation modernization efforts, and wishes to assure the public, commuters, staff, and stakeholders that the Company's operations continue as planned and without interruption.

The Company also extends gratitude to its staff across the country for their professionalism, commitment, and continued hard work during the important phase of NBX's growth and development.

Ms. Vanzie joined NBC by investing Floralia into the Company and remains a shareholder of NBC. The Company values her contribution and continued support as NBC advances its mission to strenghten and modernize Belize's public transportation sector.

End.

Together We are NBC!

PLANBELIZE 2.0

CURBING THE COST OF LIVING

Putting More Money Back Into Belizean Pockets

PLANBELIZE IS DELIVERING

- Diversification of Major Crops
- Stable Macroeconomy & Microeconomy
- Green, Blue, Orange & Purple Economies
- MSME Development Laws
- Foreign Direct Investment
- Internationally Renowned Blue Bond
- GDP Growth Leadership
- Tourism Record Numbers
- Innovative New Enterprises
- Debt-to-GDP Shrinking
- Projected GDP Growth Beyond 2026

STRONG TODAY
BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Key Measures Helping Belizean Families

- Millions in Subsidies to Bus Owners
- Fuel Tax Cuts to Cushion Price Hikes

- Minimum Wage Increased from $5 to $6
- 8.5% Raises for Teachers and Public Servants
- Increased Subsidies for University of Belize
- Financial Aid for Secondary and Tertiary Students
- Free Education for 15,000 Students in 27 Schools
- Tuition, Books, Devices, Uniforms, Meals and Transportation
- Raised Income Tax Threshold
- Healthy Start Meals for 20,000 Students Daily
- No GST Back-to-School Weekends
- No GST Christmas Weekends

- Enforcement of Price Gouging Laws
- Expanded List of Controlled Goods
- Duty-Free Feminine Hygiene Products
- Savings Passed On for Butane

- Public Hospitals Free of Fees
- National Health Insurance Access Across Belize
- People's Boledo Supports Healthcare, Sports and Charities

- Housing Access for Single Parents
- Land for First-Time Owners
- Thousands of Land Issues Regularized
- Continued Land Clinics

- Digital Government Services Reduce Travel Costs
- National ID to Expand Digitalization

A STRONGER ECONOMY • GREATER OPPORTUNITIES • A BETTER LIFE FOR EVERY BELIZEAN

smart!
Bringing People Together

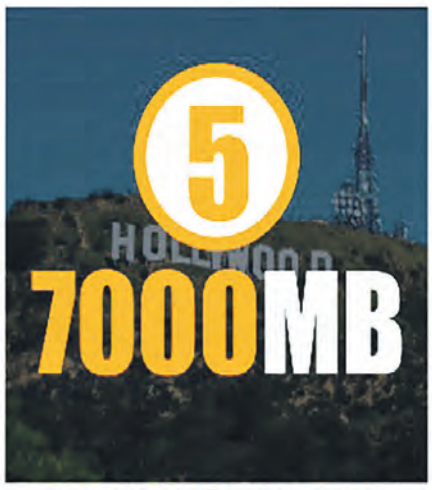
ROAMING Data Pass

SMARTER ROAMING FOR THE USA

ONLY $10.00
VALID FOR 10 DAYS

ONLY $18.00
VALID FOR 15 DAYS

ONLY $25.00
VALID FOR 20 DAYS



ONLY $50.00
VALID FOR 30 DAYS

ONLY $38.00
VALID FOR 25 DAYS

ONLY $70.00
VALID FOR 45 DAYS

WAYS TO PURCHASE:

*100# | VIA SMART APP | WWW.SMART-BZ.COM VIA MY ACCOUNT

Stay connected instantly with Smart Roaming Data Passes

NO SIM SWAP NO BILL SHOCK
FAST & RELIABLE DATA

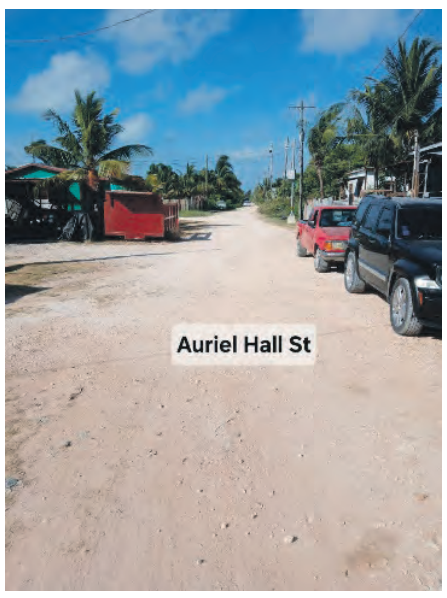
FOR MORE INFO DIAL: 1090 OR 670-1096 | FOLLOW US ON

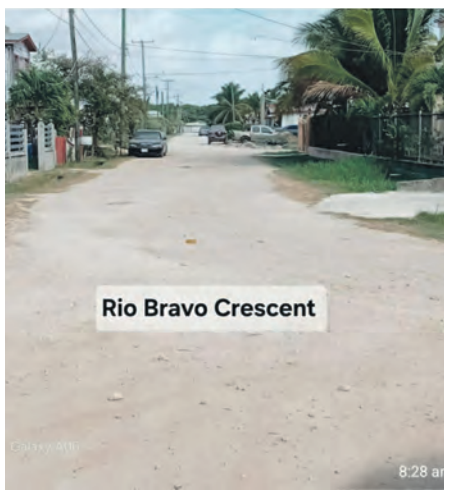
Underway
Streets in Port Loyola
Major Upgrades

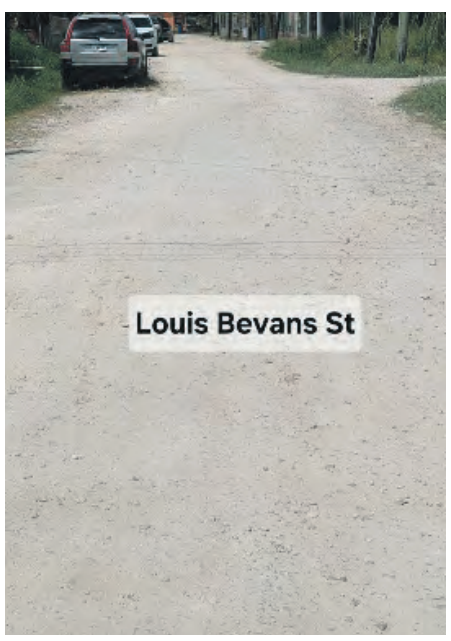
By Hon Gilroy Usher

Work has started in Port Loyola for the paving of Louis Bevans St., Ariel Hall St, and Rio Bravo Crescent, which are three of the longest streets in the division. Major improvement to the streets was one of the commitments I made in my contribution to the Budget debate in the last week of March.

To ensure the task is properly completed in the most efficient way for the benefit of the entire community, residents of those streets are asked to kindly encourage mechanics and other owners of derelict vehicles on the streets to remove them to a suitable location ASAP.







Ministry of Agriculture
Hosts Poultry Disease and Biosecurity Training

On May 13, 2026, the Stann Creek Agriculture Department successfully coordinated a Poultry Disease and Biosecurity Training aimed at strengthening poultry health management and improving biosecurity practices among poultry farmers in the district.

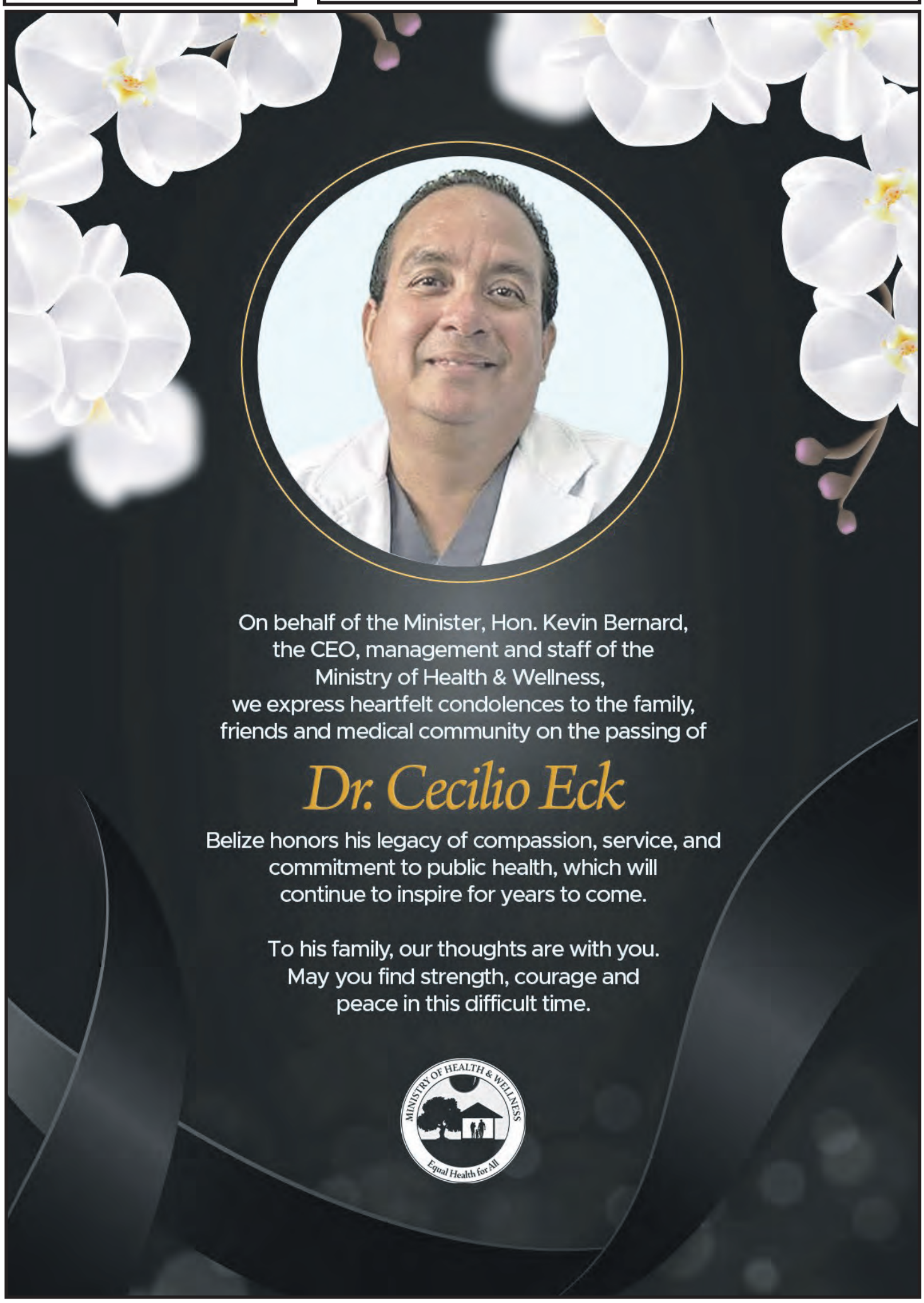
The training session was facilitated by Dr. Victor Gongora and Dr. Joe Myers, veterinary consultants with the Belize Poultry Association. The facilitators delivered presentations on common poultry diseases, prevention measures, farm sanitation, and the importance of maintaining strong biosecurity systems to protect poultry production.

Mr. Lionel Irving, representing the Belize Agricultural Health Authority (BAHA), shared valuable information on poultry disease surveillance and highlighted the role farmers play in early detection and reporting of disease outbreaks.

The training had the participation of 35 poultry farmers from across the district, reflecting the growing interest in improving poultry management practices and safeguarding the industry.

At the conclusion of the session, participants were presented with certificates in recognition of their active engagement throughout the training.

(release)


On behalf of the Minister, Hon. Kevin Bernard,
the CEO, management and staff of the
Ministry of Health & Wellness,
we express heartfelt condolences to the family,
friends and medical community on the passing of
Dr. Cecilio Eck
Belize honors his legacy of compassion, service, and
commitment to public health, which will
continue to inspire for years to come.
To his family, our thoughts are with you.
May you find strength, courage and
peace in this difficult time.
MINISTRY OF HEALTH & WELLNESS
Equal Health for All

Visit to Finland Strengthening Foundational Skills Advancing Accelerated Learning

May 15th, 2026 - Hame University of Applied Sciences (HAMK) is hosting a delegation of ten lead primary school teachers from Belize for a two-week professional study visit from 4 to 15 May 2026. The delegation, nominated by the Ministry of Education, Culture, Science and Technology (MoECST) of Belize, is accompanied by ministry representatives and is participating in an intensive programme designed to support teacher professional development.

The study visit is being organised as part of the project "Design and Implementation of Teacher Professional Development and Students' Extracurricular Programs for Accelerated Learning in Foundational Skills," funded by the Inter-American Development Bank and delivered by a consortium consisting of HAMK and JAMK University of Applied Sciences (JAMK) in close collaboration with the MoECST. HAMK serves as the lead consultant for the project. Launched in early 2026, the project aims to support the MoECST in strengthening primary-level teachers' competences in implementing an accelerated learning approach to strengthen the foundational skills of Belizean Students. Working alongside Finnish experts from HAMK and JAMK, the ten lead primary school teachers will take on key roles as local facilitators throughout the project. They will coach and mentor more than 500 primary school teachers across Belize, helping to build capacity with sustainable impact.

The study visit began with a bilateral exchange of perspectives on the Belizean and Finnish education systems. The delegation highlighted Belize's dynamic and multicultural context, emphasising the country's ongoing efforts to modernise its education system and respond effectively to diverse learner needs. As the group noted, "Belize is a small but dynamic country that is actively transforming its education system to meet the demands of a modern, global society."

During their stay in Hameenlinna, participants engaged in collaborative learning sessions focused on themes such as inclusive paedagogy, differentiated instruction, and student-centred teaching approaches. In addition, the delegation is visiting local pre- primary and primary schools to interact with Finnish educators and observe classroom practices firsthand.

Participants expressed strong appreciation for the opportunity to explore how Finnish schools foster supportive learning environments, implement student-centred approaches, and address diverse learners' needs in practice. The exposure to practical teaching methods and inclusive learning environments has provided valuable insights applicable to the Belizean context.

Ms Christy Jean Almeida, one of the delegates from the MoECST, noted: "This study visit has been both inspiring and transformative. Experiencing firsthand how Finland implements inclusive, student-centred learning has provided us with practical strategies and valuable insights that can help strengthen teaching practices and improve learning outcomes for all students in Belize." Ms Maaret Viskari, Director of HAMK Global, emphasised the importance of international collaboration: "We are delighted to collaborate with our partners in Belize and support their important education reform efforts. This partnership benefits both sides and reinforces our shared commitment to high-quality, inclusive, and sustainable development in education."

This study visit marks an important step in strengthening collaboration between Finland and Belize in the field of teacher professional development. By combining international expertise with locally grounded implementation, the project strives to deliver long-term impact on teaching quality and student achievement. The knowledge, practices, and professional networks developed during the visit will directly contribute to the successful implementation of accelerated learning programmes in Belize.

Ultimately, this initiative supports the country's broader goal of building an inclusive, innovative, and future-oriented education system that ensures all learners have the opportunity to succeed.

BELIZEPROPERTYAUCTIONS.COM
PUBLIC AUCTION SALE: VEHICLE

San Ignacio, Cayo District

BY ORDER of the Mortgagees Messrs. The Belize Bank Limited, Licensed Auctioneers Kevin A. Castillo and Christiana R. Castillo are selling ONLINE via belizepropertyauctions.com the following vehicle. **Sale currently running and will expire fortnightly on the date and time listed on the website until this vehicle is sold.**

2015 Black Chevy Cruze

"FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION & PHOTOGRAPHS PLEASE VISIT WEBSITE"
TERMS: STRICTLYCASH
KEVIN A. CASTILLO TELEPHONE 223-4488
Website: belizepropertyauctions.com
E-mail:kevinacas@yahoo.com
Facebook: Belize Auctions

NATIONAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT ORGANIZATION (NEMO)

INVITATION TO BID

SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF HUMANITARIAN EMERGENCY RESPONSE SUPPLIES

The National Emergency Management Organization (NEMO), acting through the Ministry of the Public Service, Governance and Disaster Risk Management, hereby invites eligible and qualified bidders to submit sealed bids for the ***Supply and Delivery of Humanitarian Emergency Response Supplies*** for the period **July 20, 2026 to August 14, 2026.** The bidding will be conducted on a Lot basis under the following categories:

LOT NO.	CATEGORY
1	Emergency Family Food Package
2	Family Hygiene Kit
3	Household Cleaning Items
4	Foam Mattresses
5	Purified Water

All interested bidders may contact the National Emergency Coordinator of the National Emergency Management Organization at the address below to obtain, in person, the ***complete package of the bidding documents***, or download the bid package free of charge from procurement.gov.bz. There are no fees for the bidding documents. Bidders must meet the minimum requirements as indicated in the ***Instructions to Bidders***.

The Tender Package must be collected from the National Emergency Coordinator of the National Emergency Management Organization at the address provided below during normal working hours. All tender submissions must be returned to the address below no later than ***10:00 a.m. on Friday, June 19, 2026.*** Late bids will be rejected. All bids shall be accompanied by a **Bid Securing Declaration** as specified in the Instructions to Bidders, together with the completed Specifications and Schedule of Requirements (Excel price file, all prices entered) on a USB flash drive inside the sealed bid.

On Friday, June 5, 2026, **at 10:00 a.m.** a pre-bid meeting will be held at the National Emergency Management Organization at the address provided below.

The address referred to above is:

National Emergency Coordinator
National Emergency Management Organization
Melhado Parade
City of Belmopan
Belize
Tel: (501) 822-2054 / 822-2058
Email: nemohqbmp@nemo.org.bz